

# Washington County, New York

## Data Book

2008



Prepared by the Washington County Department of  
Planning & Community Development

Comments, suggestions and corrections are welcomed and encouraged. Please contact  
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# Profile:

## Location & General Description

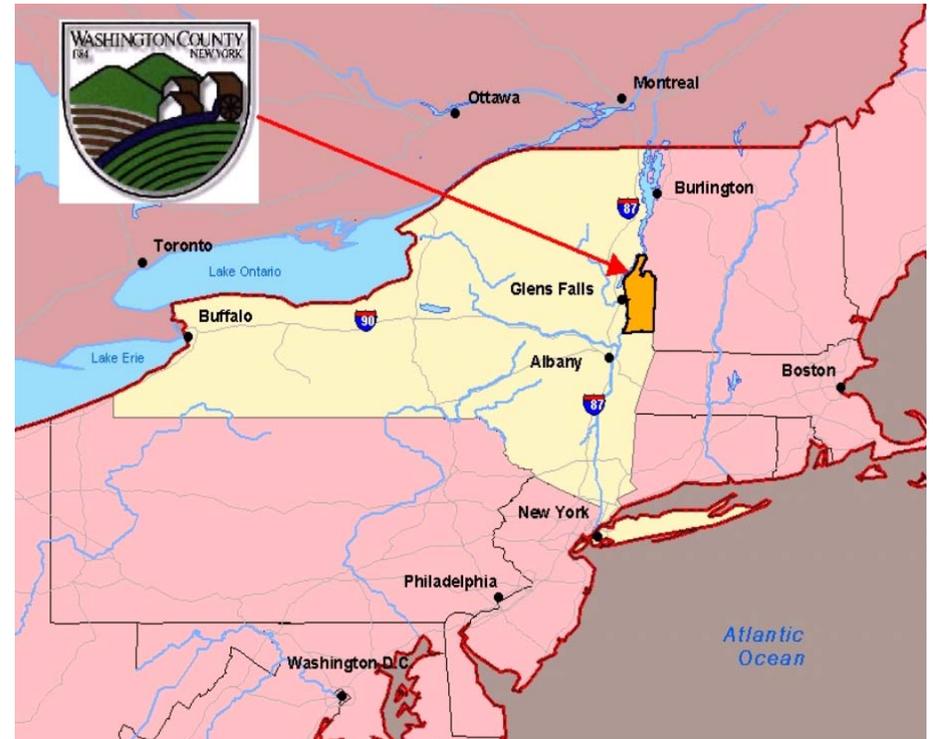


Map prepared by Randy Rath: GIS specialist  
Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional  
Planning Board

Located in Northeastern New York, Washington County is bordered by Warren and Saratoga Counties to the west, Essex County to the north and Rensselaer County to the south. Washington County shares its eastern border with the State of Vermont.

Washington County is located within one of the largest and wealthiest market areas in North

America and is accessible to all these major markets by air, rail, and major highways. Consisting of the major population centers of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada, the region contains more than half of the combined US-Canadian population within a 500-mile radius totaling well over 80 million people and representing over 50% of the US GNP and over 60% of the Canadian GNP. In addition, more than half of all US manufacturing facilities are within this region.



Map prepared by Randy Rath: GIS specialist Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board

Approximate Distance from Fort Edward to:	Highway Miles
Boston, MA	220
Buffalo, NY	310
Burlington, VT	95
Capital District	50
Hartford, CT	160
Lake George, NY	10
Lake Placid, NY	95
Manchester, VT	40
Montreal, QC	175
New York City	205
Pittsburgh, PA	530
Plattsburgh, NY	130
Quebec City, QC	325
Saratoga Springs, NY	20
Stowe, VT	135
Toronto, ON	400

Washington County has seventeen towns and nine villages and is part of the Glens Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area (GF/MSA). With a total area of 837 square miles, the county has a population density of 76 persons per square mile. The Town of Fort Edward, which serves as the county seat is considered the halfway point between Montreal and New York City.



Map prepared using Washington County Real Property Services Data

Towns	Villages
Argyle	Argyle
Cambridge	Cambridge*
Dresden	
Easton	Greenwich*
Fort Ann	Fort Ann
Fort Edward	Fort Edward
Granville	Granville
Greenwich	Greenwich*
Hampton	
Hartford	
Hebron	
Jackson	
Kingsbury	Hudson Falls
Putnam	
Salem	Salem
White Creek	Cambridge*
Whitehall	Whitehall

*\*The Villages of Cambridge and Greenwich straddle the boundaries of the two towns in which they are located. The Village of Cambridge falls within the boundaries of the Town of Cambridge and the Town of White Creek and shares a border with the Town of Jackson. The Village of Greenwich is similarly positioned within the Towns of Easton and Greenwich.*

According to US Census Bureau data, Washington County has a current estimated population of 63,368. The county has had a steady population growth for several decades. In the last three decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Washington County's population grew by 15.7%.

Since 1990, the population grew by 6.8%, with an estimated 3.8% increase since the 2000 census. The population has increased each year since the 2000 Census with percentage increases near or above the state's average, often ranking in the top ten. From 2003 to 2004, Washington County had the second fastest growing population (1.3%) of the State's 62 counties. Of the 12 Metropolitan Statistical Areas in New York State, the Glens Falls MSA had the highest gain in population (%) from 1990 to 2000.

## Population by Municipality

<i>Municipality</i>	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
<b>Washington County</b>	<b>48,476</b>	<b>52,725</b>	<b>54,795</b>	<b>59,330</b>	<b>61,042</b>
Argyle Town	1,898	2,415	2,847	3,031	3,688
Cambridge Town	1,610	1,720	1,848	1,938	2,152
Dresden Town	426	480	559	561	670
Easton Town	1,681	1,956	2,020	2,203	2,259
Fort Ann Town	3,124	3,749	4,425	6,338	6,417
Fort Edward Town	6,523	6,719	6,479	6,330	5,892
Granville Town	5,015	5,412	5,566	5,935	6,456
Greenwich Town	3,969	4,177	4,276	4,557	4,896
Hampton Town	469	464	559	756	871
Hartford Town	1,058	1,398	1,742	1,989	2,279
Hebron Town	1,026	1,212	1,288	1,540	1,773
Jackson Town	795	941	1,228	1,581	1,718
Kingsbury Town	11,012	11,737	11,660	11,851	11,171
Putnam Town	490	579	506	477	652
Salem Town	2,258	2,346	2,377	2,608	2,702
White Creek Town	2,365	2,644	2,988	3,196	3,411
Whitehall Town	4,757	4,794	4,427	4,409	4,035

The average household size in Washington County is 2.55, according to the 2000 census, compared to an average family size of 3.01 persons. The annual per capita income for Washington County residents was \$17,958 in 2000, compared with \$23,289 statewide and \$21,587 for the United States. The median household income for Washington County residents was \$37,668 compared with \$43,393 and \$41,994 for New York State and the United States respectively.

People & Income Overview	Value
Households	22,458
Labor Force (persons)	28,825
Unemployment Rate	4.9%
Per Capita Personal Income	\$17,958
Median Household Income	\$37,668
Poverty Rate	9.4%
High School Diploma or More: Adults 25+	79.1%
Bachelor's Degree or More: Adults 25+	14.3%



FFA Members of Washington County  
Photo Courtesy of Elizabeth Foote

## Physical Description

Located inside the Adirondack Park, the northern most portion of Washington County is primarily mountainous & forested. Gentle rolling hills and flatlands traditionally developed as farmland are characteristic of the bucolic southern and eastern landscape of the county. Just a short commute to the cities of Saratoga Springs, Glens Falls, Bennington, Rutland and New York's Capital District, the County is convenient.

Glens Falls, NY MSA	Population
Total	124,345
Urban	56,353
Inside the urbanized areas	48,341
Inside urban clusters	8,012
Rural	67,999
Farm	67,992
Non-farm	66,320

Major lakes and rivers form much of the county's border. The Hudson River runs along the county's southwestern perimeter, while Lake George and Lake Champlain rim the northern edge. The Poultney River forms the northern portion of the county's border with Vermont. The Champlain Canal traverses the county from the Hudson River at Fort Edward, northeast to Whitehall at the headwaters of Lake Champlain.

Map depicts the Glens Falls Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes all of Washington and Warren Counties:



## **Quality of Life:**

Diversity is Washington County's greatest asset. Whether your preference is for lakeside living, rural village life or the rustic charm of the Adirondack Mountains, Washington County has it all. You are never far from all the amenities that city living can offer. Boston, Montreal and New York are all within a few hours drive. The New York State Capital District, which includes the city of Albany, is an easy commute from southern Washington County.

### **Washington County has a temperate climate:**

Average (yearly) Temperature	Average Temperature	Average Precipitation
46 F (7C)	January: 21F(-6C)	Snow 57.5 in. (146.1 cm)
	July: 70F (21C)	Rain: 36.5 in. (92.7 cm)

## ***Housing***

The county offers homes in traditional village and rural settings, as well as modern suburbs. Well-established neighborhoods in both urban and more traditional farming communities have homes representing various historic eras and architectural styles, as well as newer single-family homes, apartments and townhouses.

There is a strong tradition of home ownership in the county. According to the US Census Bureau, the majority of housing units in the county are owner-occupied. The 2000 Census figures show that 62.3% of the county's homes are owner-occupied as compared to only 48.7% statewide and 60.2% nationally.

Senior housing and housing targeted to "empty nesters" is available throughout the region. Washington County has recently seen an increase in the development, and planned development, of many senior housing facilities and senior townhouse complexes.



Typical scenic vista in Washington County

The cost of home ownership is relatively low when compared to other areas. According to the New York State Association of Realtors (NYSAR), the median sale price in August of 2007 of a single-family home in Washington County was \$113,875. By comparison, the median sale prices for Saratoga and Warren Counties were \$253,250 and \$187,500 respectively. The NYS median was \$255,000.

## **Outdoor Recreation**

Washington County offers its residents “the good life in the great outdoors.” The county is rimmed by miles of recreational waterways. The region has literally thousands of lakes and ponds, as well as miles upon miles of brooks, streams and trails. Some of Washington County’s notable waterways and lakes include the Hudson River, Lake George, Lake Champlain, the Champlain Canal, Cossayuna Lake, Summit Lake, Lake Lauderdale, Pine Lake, Lake Nebo, and Hadlock & Copeland Ponds. The Battenkill, Poultney and Mettawee Rivers are renowned for trout fishing.

The Washington County region offers a wide variety of outdoor recreational activities year round. The MSA (Warren and Washington Counties) was recently rated the number two best golfing area in the nation by “Golfing Digest.” Visitors and residents alike may also enjoy horseback riding, camping, picnicking, hiking, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, ice fishing, water-skiing, parasailing, scuba diving, downhill & cross country skiing, ice skating, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, motorized boating, canoeing, kayaking & rafting.

The northern most portion of the county is located in the Adirondack Park. Forbes magazine asks, “Who needs the Hamptons [...] when you can have the Adirondacks.” A “paradise found” according to National Geographic, the Adirondacks tops everyone’s list. Named as one of the top ten undiscovered vacation home destinations and one of the “50 Must-See Places of a Lifetime”, the Adirondack Park has it all for the outdoor enthusiast.



The Mettawee River in Granville

The Adirondack Park is the largest park in the lower 48 states and the largest wilderness area east of the Mississippi River. Totalling six million acres, the park’s land area is equal in size to the state of Vermont. With over 2,800 lakes & ponds, over 30,000 miles of brooks and streams and 1,200 miles of river, the Park offers countless recreational opportunities for visitors and residents. For hiking enthusiasts, there are more than 2,000 miles of trails and forty-six peaks. The Park is home to the Village of Lake Placid, the winter sports capital of the Northeast and the host of two Winter Olympics.

## ***Trails & Nature Preserves***

### **Northern & Adirondack Park Region**

**Adirondack Multi-Use Hiking, Biking and Horseback Trail System.** There are numerous hiking, biking and horseback riding opportunities in northern Washington County along the eastern side of Lake George. New York State maintains a total of 41.25 miles as multiple-use foot, biking<sup>1</sup> and horse trails in Washington County in the Towns of Fort Ann and Dresden. Originally constructed as horse trails, the majority of these trails are on the public lands of the New York State Forest Preserve.

These trails follow streams with waterfalls and offer spectacular views of the Adirondack Mountains, Lake George, Lake Champlain and Vermont's Green Mountains. The horseback riding system has trails for single lane and side by riding on a variety of loops. Many trails have lean-tos for overnight camping. Altogether, the eastern shore of Lake George has over 60 miles of well-graded trails for hiking, biking, snowmobile and horseback riding.

**Shelving Rock, Sleeping Beauty and Buck Mountains** are all located in the Town of Fort Ann and all start from the same trailhead (Hogtown Road Trailhead). All three have marked hiking and horseback riding trails. Some mountain biking is allowed on the trails, but steeper trails at the top are closed to bikes. The **Shelving Rock** trail is a 7-mile loop with a vertical rise of 1300 feet. The hike is approximately 3½ hours. There is state access to Lake George and a designated campsite, as well.

The **Sleeping Beauty Mountain** trail is a 2.3-mile hike to the summit with a 1,038-foot vertical rise. There are many switchbacks making this a moderate 2½ hour hike. **Buck Mountain** is a 6.6-mile hike that has a vertical rise of 2,000 feet. The hike should take approximately 4½ hours and offers a 360° view at the summit. Parking for cars and horse trailers is located at the trailhead parking area.

**Directions to the Hogtown Road trailhead and parking for the Lake George Trails System:** From NYS Route 149 take Buttermilk Falls Road heading north. At 3.2 miles this road becomes Sly Pond Road (the pavement ends). At 8.7 miles the Hogtown Road comes in from the right. Continue straight. You are now on Shelving Rock Road. The Trailhead is 9.4 miles from NYS Route 149.

Located in the Town of Dresden, **Black Mountain**, at 2646 feet, is the tallest mountain above Lake George. This is a difficult 8.5-mile trail with a vertical rise of 1,100 feet that should take approximately 6 hours to complete. You will find a ranger's cabin and an abandoned fire tower at the summit. The mountain has NYS signed hiking, mountain biking<sup>1</sup> and horseback riding trails.

**Directions:** Located between Ticonderoga and Whitehall. From NYS Route 22 (at Clemons) drive 2.6 miles west on County Route 6 toward Huletts Landing and bear (south) left to Pike Brook Road; the trailhead and parking is approximately 0.8 miles.

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<sup>1</sup> The trails to the top of Sleeping Beauty, Buck Mountain and Black Mountain are closed to mountain bikes

**East Bay Wildlife Management Area** encompasses 38 acres off County Route 10 in the Town of Whitehall and is primarily a wetland preserve known for hunting and fishing, especially waterfowl. For more information concerning East Bay Wildlife Management Area, please contact the Region 5 Bureau of Wildlife in Warrensburg at: 518-623-1240.

**Gull Bay Preserve**, with 472 acres in the Town of Putnam, provides scenic vistas of Gull Bay and southern Lake George. The preserve includes part of Sucker Brook, which is considered one of the most important wetlands in the Lake George watershed and is home to a great blue heron rookery containing over 30 nests.<sup>2</sup> The Lake George Land Conservancy has established more than two miles of hiking trails with moderate to steep slopes and hosts nature excursions as part of its field trip series. The blue trail is a 0.3 mile trail that follows an old logging road uphill to an overlook. Just below the blue trail the orange and yellow trails cut off and loop around either side of the wetland to the heron rookery and beaver dam. Sections of trails may be seasonally flooded and not passable.

**Directions:** From NYS Route 22 take Gull Bay Road approximately 1.75 miles to Sagamore Road. The dirt road entrance to the preserve is 0.6 miles down Sagamore Road.

**Pilot Knob Ridge Preserve** is a 223 acre preserve located in the Town of Fort Ann. A two-mile loop trail with a moderately steep slope climbs approximately 650 feet to an overlook gazebo that provides a view of the southern Lake George basin and Adirondack Mountains. A waterfall is located about 1.5 miles beyond the overlook.

<http://www.lglc.org/NaturePreserves/Pilot-Knob.asp>

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<sup>2</sup> A rookery is a nesting colony. A single rookery can contain up to 100 nests. The Great Blue Heron is North America's largest heron.

For additional information on either of the above preserves contact: Lake George Land Conservancy on Lake Shore Drive. PO Box 1250, Bolton Landing NY 12814 Tel: 518- 644-9673. <http://www.lglc.org/default.asp>

**Directions:** Traveling from the west, take NYS Route 9N to the intersection of NYS Route 9. Go north a ½ mile on NYS Route 9 to NYS Route 9L. Go north on NYS Route 9L approximately 7 miles to Pilot Knob Road. Traveling from the east, at the intersection NYS Route 4 and NYS Route 149 (in the Village of Fort Ann) head west on NYS Route 149 for approximately 7 miles to the intersection with NYS Route 9L. Go north on NYS Route 9L about 5 miles to Pilot Knob Road. The U- shaped parking area is about 0.7 miles up Pilot Knob Road.

Trail maps, guidebooks and other publications covering the Adirondacks can be purchased from **The Adirondack Mountain Club** (ADK). The ADK is dedicated to the protection and responsible use of the state parks and preserves. For information, call 518-668-4447 or visit their website at [www.adk.org](http://www.adk.org).



A waterfall on Pilot Knob Ridge Preserve.

## **Southern and Western Washington County**

**Battenkill State Forest**, the newest of all of the Washington County recreational areas, includes the 2.61 mile **Peaked Rock Trail**. The marked trailhead is located 1.1 miles southwest of the intersection of County Route 313 and County Route 61. The trailhead and parking are on Route 313, which runs along the Battenkill.

**Carter Pond Wildlife Management Area** is located along State Route 338 in the Town of Greenwich. The State-Owned Wildlife Management Area (State Forest Preserve) on Carter's Pond is a 435 acre facility that has nature trails, cross-country skiing, canoeing, hunting & fishing. Open year round. A parking area is located on County Route 49. For information, contact Region 5 Bureau of Wildlife at Ray Brook 518-897-1291 or Warrensburg 518-623-1240.

**Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary & School** is located in the Hamlet of Shushan (Town of Salem) and is a non-profit sanctuary, school and land trust on 217 acres bordering the Battenkill. The Sanctuary is accessible to the public through the school. Tel: 518-854-7764 [www.dionondehowa.org](http://www.dionondehowa.org).

**Feeder Canal Parks and Trail.** The Feeder Canal, a conduit for water from the Hudson River to the Champlain Canal, first began moving goods and people by canal boat in 1832. By 1928, the canal was abandoned and left neglected until 1987, when the Feeder Canal Alliance was formed. Through their efforts the historic canal and towpath is now a 7-mile linear park providing the community with recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, canoeing, kayaking & picnicking. The trail connects to the Warren County Bikeway; a 9.5 mile paved bikeway that extends to the shore of Lake George. For

information contact: Feeder Canal Alliance, PO Box 2414, Glens Falls NY 12801 at 518-792-5363.

**Pember Nature Preserve** (sometimes referred to as the **Hebron Nature Preserve**) consists of 125 acres of wildlife habitats; open fields, wetlands and forests, as well as seven nature trails that offer the walker an easy stroll to a moderate hike. The preserve has two entrances on Route 22 south of the Village of Granville; one at Porter Schoolhouse and one at South Grimes Hill Road. For information contact: The Pember Library & Museum, 33 West Main Street (NYS Route 149), Granville NY 12832 Tel: 518-642-1515.

[www.pembermuseum.com](http://www.pembermuseum.com).

## ***Skiing***

**Willard Mountain**, located in the Town of Easton in Southwest Washington County, offers skiing, snowboarding and tubing for the entire family. With 14 trails, a terrain park, and a tubing park, Willard Mountain is a popular winter destination for many in Washington County and the Capital Region.

Washington County is also located in close proximity to the major ski areas of the Adirondacks and Vermont. Gore Mountain is an hour drive from Fort Edward, and the ski areas of Killington Vermont are an hour and a half drive east of Fort Edward.

Willard Mountain, and the close proximity of Washington County to the major ski centers of the Northeast makes Washington County's skiing opportunities some of the best in New York.

## **Snowmobile Trails**

### **Washington County Association of Snowmobile Clubs**

maintains 306 miles of trails and produces its own map showing all the interconnected trails in the county. A rider can connect with trails that cross into neighboring Vermont, as well as neighboring counties in New York State. For information contact: Washington County Association of Snowmobile Clubs, PO Box 264, Granville NY 12832 [www.wcasc.snowclubs.com](http://www.wcasc.snowclubs.com).

For **Washington County Snowmobile Trail Maps**, contact the Washington County Department of Planning & Community Development: Washington County Municipal Center, 383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-746-2290.



A Portion of the County's Snowmobile Trail System

## **County Parks**

Washington County owns and operates two parks; **Huletts Landing** and **Lake Lauderdale**, both having sandy beaches and picnic facilities. Each park has a pavilion that accommodates 200 people and is equipped with picnic tables, a barbecue pit, grills, electricity and a walk-in cooler. Both parks offer other amenities including: playgrounds, basketball, volleyball & horseshoes. Open daily<sup>3</sup> starting the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in June until Labor Day (8:00 AM to 8:00 PM). There is no charge for general admission. For pavilion reservation or other information contact: Washington County Department of Public Works at 518-746-2440, Ext. 4.

**Huletts Landing** is located on Lake George, the “Queen of American Lakes”, and has a canoe & small boat launch, as well as tennis courts. Huletts is on Route 6B, Sunset Bay Road in the Town of Dresden.

**Lake Lauderdale**, located on Route 22 in the Town of Jackson, is a 100-acre park that offers all the amenities listed above, as well as nature trails.

Lake Lauderdale Campground is a privately owned campground adjacent to the county park that offers camping with heated bath houses, laundry, camp store, cabins and rental trailers. 744 County Route 61, Cambridge NY 12816 Tel: 518-677-8855 [www.lakelauderdaletcampground.com](http://www.lakelauderdaletcampground.com)

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<sup>3</sup> Open for swimming & picnicking weekends starting Memorial Day (open daily starting the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday after the local school year ends, which varies yearly). The Pavilion is available for rent the two weekends following Labor Day.

## **Boat Launches & Marinas**

**Carters Pond's** NYS boat launch is located on County Route 49, two miles south of the Hamlet of Cossayuna. There is parking for ten cars. Hand launching and electric motors only.

**Cossayuna Lake's** NYS boat launch is located at the north end of the lake and is open to the public. Directions: Turn east off NYS Route 40 at the Hamlet of South Argyle and go east on County Route 49 to East Lake (Shore) Road. It is a hard surface launching ramp with parking for 30 cars and trailers.

The Town of Dresden has a public boat launch maintained by the state on South Bay (Lake Champlain) that provides access to both Lake Champlain and the Champlain Canal. The launch is located near the South Bay Bridge on NYS Route 22, 2½ miles northwest of the Village of Whitehall. This is a hard surface launching ramp with parking for 50 cars and trailers.

**Moses Kill** has access for kayaks and canoes along the left side of NYS Route 4 as you travel south (approximately 10 minutes) from Fort Edward.

Washington County has many opportunities for docking boats while traveling up the **Champlain Canal**. Starting at Fort Edward and heading north, docking facilities are available in the following locations:

Fort Edward has floating docks located just north of Lock C-7 with adjacent picnic facilities. The **Fort Edward Yacht Basin** is accessible via a short and winding spur of the Hudson River west of Lock C-7 and has free water and electrical hook-ups for boaters. The Yacht Basin also has picnic facilities that can be used for larger events, such as reunions and weddings.

For information contact: Fort Edward Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 267, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 747-3000  
[www.fortedwardchamber.com](http://www.fortedwardchamber.com).

Heading north, at Lock 9 in **Smith's Basin**, a wooden dock on the lower side of the lock provides an excellent picnic opportunity. There is access to the Champlain Canal for kayaks and canoes at Smith's Basin as well.<sup>4</sup> Further to the north, in historic **Fort Ann**, there is a small floating dock adjacent to the bridge. The village center and business district is a two-block walk from the dock.



South Bay, Lake Champlain

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<sup>4</sup> Limited access for kayaks & canoes at Smiths Basin is located under the NYS Route 149 Bridge

Another 11 miles to the north is the **Village of Whitehall**, where boaters will find two full-service marinas along the shores of Lake Champlain immediately north of Lock 12: The Lock 12 Marina (Tel: 518-499-2049) and The Whitehall Marina and RV Park (Tel: 499-9700). Both marinas offer an array of services including transient and seasonal docking, boat launching, boat sales, rentals and repairs. The area offers lakeside lodging, restaurants and shopping.

The Whitehall area has two public boat launches with direct access to the canal. In addition to the NYS boat launch in Dresden listed above, the Village has a boat launch, located in the **Skenesborough Harbor Park** on Skenesborough Drive. The Park offers a waterside gazebo with a barbecue facility and picnic tables.

For further information or to obtain a Washington County Tour Guide for a complete listing of recreation facilities, please contact: **Washington County Tourism Association**, 383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-499-2435 or 746-2294 [www.washingtoncounty.org](http://www.washingtoncounty.org).

A universally-accessible, 300-foot long wooden fishing pier is located on the South Bay of Lake Champlain in the town of Dresden. The site of a former highway bridge, the fishing pier offers public fishing access to the west shore of South Bay.



Adirondack Golden Goal, Fort Ann

### **Area Sports**

There are many opportunities for area residents of all ages to participate in both team and individual sports. Sports fans will enjoy the wide variety of professional and collegiate sporting events the region offers.

Many towns and school districts in the county offer a variety of recreation programs throughout the year, especially during the summer months. Programs include instruction in a number of team and individual sports, including soccer, tennis, swimming and downhill skiing. In addition, area youth participate in Little League Baseball, Pop Warner Football and Club hockey. The annual All-American Soap Box Derby held in nearby Glens Falls draws participants from throughout the region.

Many area colleges and universities offer a variety of sports at the highest level of collegiate competition for students and spectators alike. **Adirondack Community College** students participate in a number of sports at both the Intramural and Intercollegiate Levels. Washington County's High Schools and Middle Schools offer a number of opportunities for students to participate in a variety of organized sports and athletic activities. In addition to inter-scholastic sports, many schools offer intramural sports programs that are open to all students.

**Glens Falls Golden Eagles** are part of the New York Collegiate Baseball League, a wooden bat summer league sanctioned by the NCAA, and partially funded by Major League Baseball. Additionally, The Glens Falls Civic Center hosts the annual New York State High School Basketball Championship and the Boys and Girls Federation Championships.

In addition to the many outdoor recreational opportunities previously noted, adults can participate in golf, bowling, basketball, softball, hockey and other team sports through the many leagues, clubs and other organized sports organizations.

The area boasts a number of professional and semi professional sports teams. The semi-professional **Glens Falls Green Jackets** football team plays locally at the East Field Stadium Complex and is a member of the 10-team Empire Football League. The University at Albany campus is the location of the **New York Giants'**(2008 Super Bowl Champions) summer camp.

Nearby Saratoga, the horse racing capital of the Northeast, has the nation's oldest and most prestigious thoroughbred track, the world-renowned **Saratoga Race Course**, as well as harness racing at **Saratoga Gaming & Raceway**.



Hubbard Hall stage, Cambridge NY  
1878 original stage curtain

## ***Arts & Culture***

The area boasts a wide array of cultural activities and shopping destinations. The bucolic landscapes that inspired Grandma Moses continue to inspire artists today. Southern Washington County is fast becoming a home to many budding artists' workshops and galleries. Theaters, such as Hubbard Hall, a restored 1878 Opera House, offer year-round and seasonal theatrical, dance and musical productions.

## ***Special Events***

Washington County and the surrounding area is host to a variety of special events throughout the year. The area is well known to hot air balloon enthusiasts. **The Adirondack Balloon Festival** is held every fall and celebrated its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2007. **The Cambridge Balloon Festival**, held every June in southern Washington County, draws thousands of visitors to the area. The festival is about more than balloons. The weekend long festival features many other events, including the "Balloon Festival Classic," a major regional bicycle-racing event that drew more than 10,000 people to the Cambridge area.

Two other area events are held during the same time of year: “**Americade**” is the world's largest multi-brand motorcycle touring rally and the **Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC) Arts & Craft Festival**, one of the largest and oldest festivals of its kind in the county.

**Other special events and festivals in Washington County include:**

- Whitehall Winter Festival ▪ February
- Whipple City Days (Greenwich) ▪ June
- Fort Edward Heritage Days ▪ July
- The Washington County Fair (Easton) ▪ August
- French & Indian War Encampment at Rogers Island (Fort Edward) ▪ September
- Granville Heritage Days & Autumn Leaves Antique Car Show▪ September
- Sandy Hill Days (Hudson Falls)▪ September

***Regional Attractions***

The **Hyde Museum** in nearby Glens Falls houses a world class collection of art and antiques featuring works by Renoir, Rembrandt, Degas, de Vinci, Picasso, Van Gogh, Seurat and Homer. The museum’s auditorium also hosts many dance and musical performances, such as the de Blasis Chamber Series.

The **Chapman Historical Museum** features Victorian Era artifacts and a large collection of Stoddard and other regional photographs. The **World Awareness Children’s Museum** is a hands-on museum that celebrates cultures from around the world. The new 300-seat **Wood Theatre** and the **Glens Falls Civic Center** presents theatrical and musical productions. The city also has its own Symphony Orchestra.

**Saratoga Performing Arts Center** (SPAC) is the summer home to the New York City Ballet, Philadelphia Orchestra and the

Lake George Opera Company. SPAC also presents many special events each season, such as the Kool New York Jazz Festival and performances by contemporary artists. Saratoga is also the site of the **National Museum of Dance & Hall of Fame**.

Less than an hour south of Washington County, the Capital District’s lively arts scene offers many opportunities to enjoy live performances, including fully staged productions straight from Broadway. **The Pepsi Arena, The Place Performing Arts Center, the Capital Repertory Theater, Proctor’s Theater, Troy Music Hall** and **The Egg** at the Empire State Plaza are just a few of the area’s musical and theatrical venues.

The area boasts many fine art galleries and museums to suit nearly every interest. The **Albany Institute of History & Art**, one of the oldest museums in the country, is older than the Smithsonian Institution, the Metropolitan Museum and the Louvre. The Empire State Plaza is also the location of the **New York State Museum**. If your interests run towards the technical, the **Schenectady Museum & Planetarium** is well worth the trip.

**History:**

***Settlement and Military History***

Originally named Charlotte County in 1772 in honor of Queen Charlotte, wife of King George III, the county had been part of Albany County and included much of what is now Vermont and Northeastern New York. Following the Revolutionary War, in 1784, the county was renamed in honor of George Washington.

The natural and man-made waterways of Washington County have played an important role in its history and development since pre-colonial times. The area and its interconnected

waterways served as an important passageway for the Iroquois and other Native American people. Known as the Great War Path, this passageway served as a strategic military corridor and critical staging area during North America's earliest conflicts.

On July 4<sup>th</sup> of 1609, Samuel de Champlain, along with a party consisting of the First Nations of the Montagnais, Algonquians and Wyandot (Hurons) entered the northern end of Lake Champlain. There they encountered a large force of the Iroquois Nation on the western shore at what is now Gourlies Point in the Town of Putnam. This battle marked the beginning of 150 years of hostilities between the Iroquois and the French known as the French and Indian Wars. Within a few weeks time of this encounter, Henry Hudson sailed his ship the "Half-moon" up the Hudson River establishing Dutch contact with the region. The territorial claims of these two explorers played a major role in the hostilities culminating in the Revolutionary War and ending with the War of 1812.

In addition to the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the French & Indian War, the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War of 1812 and the Battle of Plattsburgh, the upcoming 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European explorations of the Hudson River, Lake George, and Lake Champlain provides an opportunity for marketing and promoting the region to national and international audiences. Lakes to Locks Passage, as well as New York's Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial Commission and Vermont's Lake Champlain Quadricentennial Commission will be instrumental in the development and coordination of various commemorative activities for 2009.

The county played a major role in three major conflicts: The French & Indian War, The Revolutionary War and The War of 1812. Skenesborough on Lake Champlain (present day Whitehall) was one of the first important settlements in the county. Under Benedict Arnold's command, colonists built and

sailed this country's first warships, earning Whitehall the designation of the "*Birth Place of the United States Navy.*" Later Whitehall served as a military warehouse for British and American fleets during the War of 1812.

Many of the county's villages began as forts. Fort Ann was the site of a succession of forts. First serving as a British camp in 1690, it became the site of Fort Schuyler, built in 1709. Destroyed in retreat during Queen Anne's War, it was rebuilt two years later and eventually renamed Fort Anne. Fort Ann has national significance as the place where the "Stars and Stripes" first flew during a Revolutionary War battle on July 8, 1777.

Salem, in southern Washington County, began as the British fort, Fort William. Renamed Fort Salem in 1776, it was used as barracks by Patriot forces during The Revolutionary War. Fort Saraghtoga, built in 1704, in what is now the town of Easton, served as a British 12-gun fort for 450 troops during Queen Anne's War.

Strategically located along The Great War Path, Rogers Island in Fort Edward served as a British military installation during The French and Indian Wars, garrisoned patriot troops during The Revolutionary War and is an important site for Native American artifacts. As one of the largest British fortifications in North America during The French & Indian Wars, Fort Edward became the third largest city in this country behind New York City and Boston.

The island served as base camp for Major Robert Rogers and his company of Rangers during the last of the French & Indian Wars. It was here he wrote his methods of training and rules of order, know as "Ranging Rules." These rules marked a change for the British way of confronting an enemy on the battlefield and formed the basis of military tactics adopted by irregular fighting forces the world over. Colonial troops garrisoned in the remaining barracks on the island during The Revolutionary War

until they were forced to flee in 1777 by General John Burgoyne's army en route to the Battle of Saratoga.

Indigenous groups have traveled, hunted and fished along the Hudson River and the area has been the site of successive Native American cultures and settlement. Native American cultures existed in the area from 6,000 to 3,100 BC, when flooding ended over 2,000 years of habitation. Beginning in about 1,000 BC the area began a new period of Native American settlement. Little Wood Creek has been the site of several prehistoric settlements. Archaeologists have unearthed more than 80,000 artifacts from the Little Wood Creek Archaeological Site, which are archived at the Rogers Island Visitors Center. The Center is also headquarters to an Archaeology Field School (dig). The processing of artifacts can be observed in the Center's laboratory and archaeologists present daily lectures in the Center's gallery throughout the dig, which is conducted each year.

### ***Civil War Era & Underground Railroad***

While most of the fighting took place in the southern states, the Civil War proved to be a great burden to many Washington County families. With husbands, fathers and brothers away from their fields, many farm families struggled to survive. In the Town of Hartford, the only remaining Civil War Enlistment Building in New York State stands as a testimony to the North's wartime sacrifices.

Recent research has verified local accounts of Underground Railroad activity throughout the county. Many homes sheltered fugitive slaves and documentation has shown that fugitive slaves traveled up the Champlain Canal to freedom. Antebellum Greenwich in southern Washington County, known then as Union Village, was a hotbed of abolitionist and Underground Railroad activities.

Fort Edward is the location of one of the oldest structures in upstate New York, the former home of Solomon Northup. Northup, a free black man, was kidnapped and sold into slavery in the Deep South for twelve years. He authored a book entitled, "Twelve Years as a Slave," recounting those years. Slave narratives, such as Northup's, conveyed to the reader the suffering, intelligence and humanity of enslaved African Americans, and were important to the growth of abolitionism.

### ***Early Industry and the Canal Era***

Washington County has a rich industrial history. The economy grew from an early industrial base of fur trading, raw materials and agricultural products. The area has long served as a major transportation route connecting New York City with the Mid-Atlantic States and Canada. Early Dutch settlers established fur trading posts along the natural waterways of the region. The historic trading routes first stimulated the construction of saw and grist mills, kilns and foundries. One of the earliest saw mills was established in Fort Ann in 1765. Beginning in the 1700's, Washington County's economy was dependent upon its natural resources, such as timber, agricultural products, lime and slate, as primary exports.

Work began on the Erie Canal in 1817 and was completed in 1825. The completion of the 63-mile Champlain Canal in 1823, connecting the Hudson River at Fort Edward to Lake Champlain in Whitehall, led to a surge of commercial growth and development for communities along the route. The canal became crucial to the movement of finished goods, raw materials, agricultural products and passengers. It provided a swift water route to New York City and eastern Canada, as well as connecting to the developing cities to the west via the Erie Canal. Today the canal continues to be used primarily for pleasure boating.

Rail was introduced in the county in the mid 1800s bringing both tourists and freight to the area. Trains connecting Whitehall to Vermont began to run as early as 1848 with final connection to Ticonderoga and Plattsburg being completed in 1875. Salem became the county's eastern rail center with introduction of the Albany Northern Railroad. The county had a system of interurban rail lines and trolleys that provided an internal transportation system with daily trips throughout the county. These lines were taken over by the Delaware and Hudson Railroad in 1906 and became the Hudson Valley Railway. Amtrak continues to provide regular passenger service to the area with stations in both Fort Edward and Whitehall. CP Rail, Vermont Railway and The Battenkill Railroad currently provide freight service to the area.

The natural waterways served as a source of power, as well as a means of transportation and helped to form the early industrial base. Dams, built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century along the Hudson River, first supplied power to Sandy Hill (later known as Hudson Falls) and Fort Edward. Later these were diverted to canals for paper mills, foundries and machine shops. Paper mills and other industries powered by water developed along the Battenkill stimulating further growth and enhancing the diversity that characterizes the industrial community today. Contributing to the county's diverse economic base was the mining and processing of raw materials, such as iron ore, flint, graphite, limestone, marble and slate.

Mining, particularly slate, has long been and continues to be a major sector in the county's economy. Today slate is used primarily as a roofing material and for decorative building applications. The Slate Valley, where slate has been quarried since 1839, is located in the northeastern part of the county along the Vermont and New York border. Known as the "Slate Capital of the World," it is the only place in the world where red slate is found and is still quarried today.

Value was added to the many agricultural products grown and raised here as well. Most agricultural products were first processed for local use, but later many were produced for export. The county was dotted with knitting mills, a dozen cheese factories, as well as grist and cider mills. The textile industry using local flax and wool, as well as imported silk and cotton, reached its peak in the later half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Among several textile firms operating in the county, was the Manhattan Shirt Company, which operated two mills. Today the county is home to manufacturers of medical instruments, paper making machinery, paper products, metal products, furniture, and electronic components.

### ***Historic Resources***

Washington County has many historic sites and structures, including several listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Listed places include the childhood home of suffragette Susan B. Anthony, covered bridges, churches, a Revolutionary War Cemetery, a train station, two canals and six of Washington County's Village Centers. The Town of Jackson is known for its covered bridges where three nationally listed bridges connects Jackson to neighboring towns. St. Luke's Episcopal Church in the Village of Cambridge, features original Louis Comfort Tiffany stained glass windows and is one the very few churches fully designed and crafted by the famous artisans of the Tiffany Studio.

### ***Historical and Cultural Museums***

Many museums and historic sites celebrate and interpret the military, agricultural, natural and industrial history of Washington County. **To learn more about the region's rich history, plan a visit to one of the following:**

**Cambridge Historical Society Museum:** 12 Broad Street,  
Cambridge NY 12816 Tel: 518-677-5232  
[CambHistorical@aol.com](mailto:CambHistorical@aol.com).

**Hebron Preservation Society Museum:** PO Box 328, Salem NY 12865 Tel: 518-642-2579

The **Howard Hanna Civil War Museum** is housed in the only remaining Civil War Enlistment Building in New York State. Main Street, Hartford NY 12838 Tel: 518-632-9151

Situated on nine acres of park and gardens along the famous Battenkill, **The Georgi Museum & Park Center** houses a collection of Renaissance Art, as well as European and Asian Antiques. 12 Adams Lane (Box 150) Shushan NY 12873 Tel: 518-854-3773 or 854-3590 [www.salem-ny.com/georgi.html](http://www.salem-ny.com/georgi.html).

Once the home of Solomon Northrup and one of the oldest structures in upstate New York: **The Old Fort House Museum in Fort Edward** served as both British and American headquarters during The Revolutionary War. 22 & 29 Broadway (US Route 4) in Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-747-9600

Examples of various modes of transportation from yesteryear are on view at **The Past Particles Museum** RR Scotch Hill Road, Cambridge NY 12816 Tel: 518-854-3143

**The Pember Museum of Natural History** houses a Victorian-era collection of natural life specimens and other natural history objects featuring some rare and extinct species of plants and animals. 33 West Main Street, Granville NY 12832 Tel: 518-642-1515 [www.pembermuseum.com](http://www.pembermuseum.com)

**Rough & Ready Museum** houses late 19<sup>th</sup> & early 20<sup>th</sup> century fire fighting equipment and memorabilia. Main Street, Greenwich NY 12834 Tel: 518-692-2788

**Rogers Island Visitors Center** offers tourist information, displays and programs. An important site for area military and Native American history, the center is the headquarters for the ACC (Adirondack Community College) Archaeological Field School held each summer. PO Box 208-11 Rogers Island Drive, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-747-3693 [www.rogersisland.org](http://www.rogersisland.org).

Washington County has a number of covered bridges that have made it to the National Register of Historic Places. Built across the Battenkill River in 1858, the Shushan Covered Bridge has a unique truss system used in only 20 bridges in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The one room country school house next to the bridge operated as a school until 1942 and today houses a collection of 19<sup>th</sup> Century desks, maps and other school equipment. **The Shushan Covered Bridge Museum-The Shushan Covered Bridge Association Inc.** Shushan NY 12873 Tel: 518-854-7220 or 518-677-8251 [www.salem-ny.com/sh.html](http://www.salem-ny.com/sh.html).

The Rexleigh Covered Bridge spans 107 feet over the Battenkill in the Towns of Jackson-Salem, east of State Rt. 22 on Rexleigh Road. It was built in 1874.

Also located in the Towns of Jackson-Salem is the Eagleville Covered Bridge. Built in 1858 this bridge also spans the Battenkill and is located west of State Route 313.

The Buskirk Covered Bridge, which spans 165 feet across the Hoosic River, is located on State Route 67 between Rensselaer and Washington Counties in the Town of Hoosic-White Creek.

**Skene Manor**, once home to New York Supreme Court Justice Joseph Potter, is an outstanding example of Victorian Gothic architecture built by Italian stonecutters with materials quarried on site. This "castle on the mountain" is located at 8 Potters Terrace, Whitehall NY 12887 Tel: 518-499-1906.

A former Barge Canal freight depot houses the **Skenesborough Museum & Heritage Visitors Center**. The museum displays historical artifacts that illustrate Whitehall's maritime history as the "Birthplace of the U.S. Navy." Skenesborough Drive (off route 4), Whitehall NY 12887 Tel: 518-499-0716 or 518-499-1155.

Located in an 18<sup>th</sup> Century New World Dutch Barn, **The Slate Valley Museum in Granville** explores the natural and industrial history of slate, its regional impact and that of the immigrant workers who contributed to the industry. 17 Water Street, Granville NY Tel: 518-642-1417 [www.slatevalleymuseum.org](http://www.slatevalleymuseum.org).

**The William Miller Home & Farm (Chapel)**, built in 1848, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is the home of the founder of the Adventist Christian Movement. 1614 County Route 11, Whitehall NY 12887 Tel: 518- 282-9617

The Washington County Historical Society is headquartered in the Federal Era **Wing-Northrup House**. The society presents exhibits, lectures and other programs, as well as maintains a Heritage Research Library for public use. 167 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-747-9108

*Many of these museums are open seasonally or by appointment. We suggest contacting museums directly for visiting hours.*

## **Tourism Information:**

*For more information on all tourism related businesses, shopping destinations, restaurants, accommodations, museums, special events and other attractions, please contact the following:*

### **Washington County Tourism Association:**

383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-499-2435 or 746-2294 [www.washingtoncounty.org](http://www.washingtoncounty.org) Please request a copy of the **Washington County Tour Guide**.

### **Visitor Centers**

Heritage Visitors Center  
Whitehall Harbor Park  
Skenesborough Drive, Whitehall NY 12887  
Tel: 518-499-1155  
[www.whitehallchamber.com](http://www.whitehallchamber.com)

Rogers Island Visitors Center  
11 Rogers Island Drive, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-747-3693  
[www.rogersisland.org](http://www.rogersisland.org)  
[rogersisland@adelphia.net](mailto:rogersisland@adelphia.net)

While a variety of lodging options are available throughout the county, it is the quaint bed and breakfast or country inn that will allow the visitor to fully experience the relaxed lifestyle that is Washington County.

## ***Chambers of Commerce***

### **Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce**

PO Box 158, Glens Falls NY 12801

Toll Free Information: 888-516-7247

Tel: 518-798-1761 [www.adirondackchamber.org](http://www.adirondackchamber.org)

### **Cambridge Valley Chamber of Commerce (CVCC)**

PO Box 405, Cambridge NY 12816

Tel: 518-677-0887 [www.cambridgenychamber.com](http://www.cambridgenychamber.com)

### **Fort Edward Chamber of Commerce**

PO Box 267, Fort Edward NY 12828

Attention: Keith Griffen Home Tel: 748-4838

Tel: 518-747-3000 (Answer machine)

[www.fortedwardchamber.com](http://www.fortedwardchamber.com)

### **Granville Area Chamber of Commerce (GACC)**

PO Box 13, Granville NY 12832

Tel: 518-642-2815 [www.granvillechamber.com](http://www.granvillechamber.com)

### **Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce**

6 Academy Street, Greenwich NY 12834

Tel: 518-692-7979 [www.greenwichchamber.org](http://www.greenwichchamber.org)

### **Salem Chamber of Commerce**

PO Box 717, Salem NY 12865

Tel: 518-854-9296 [www.salemnychamber.com](http://www.salemnychamber.com)

### **Whitehall Chamber of Commerce**

PO Box 97, Whitehall NY 12887

Tel: 518-499-2292

[www.whitehall-chamber.org](http://www.whitehall-chamber.org)



Fall Foliage  
Photo Courtesy of the Town of Hartford

## **Community Contacts:**

Argyle Municipal Building (Town & Village)  
41 Main Street, Argyle NY 12809  
Tel: 518-638-8681  
[www.argyleny.com](http://www.argyleny.com)

Cambridge Town Office  
846 County Rt. 59, Cambridge NY 12816  
Tel: 518-677-5532

Cambridge Village  
Location: 21 West Main Street  
PO Box 271, Cambridge NY 12816  
Tel: 518-677-2622

Dresden Town Clerk  
1 Lillians Way, Clemons NY 12819  
Tel: 518-499-1813

Easton Town Clerk  
1071 State Route 40, Greenwich NY 12834  
Tel: 518-692-2678

Fort Ann Town Clerk  
PO Box 314, Fort Ann NY 12827  
Tel: 518-639-8929  
[www.fortann.us](http://www.fortann.us)

Fort Ann Village Office  
Location: 67 Anne Street  
PO Box 236, Fort Ann NY 12827  
Phone: 518-639-4416

Fort Edward Offices (Town & Village)  
Location: 118 Broadway  
PO Box 127, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-747-5212 (Town)  
Tel: 518-747-4023 (Village)  
[www.fortedward.net](http://www.fortedward.net)

Granville Town Offices  
Location: 42 Main Street  
PO Box 177, Granville NY 12832  
Tel: 518-642-1500

Granville Village Clerk  
Location: 51 Quaker St.  
PO Box 208, Granville NY 12832  
Tel: 518-642-2640

Greenwich Town Offices  
2 Academy Street, Greenwich NY 12834  
Tel: 518-692-7611  
[www.greenwichny.org](http://www.greenwichny.org)

Greenwich Village Offices  
6 Academy Street, Greenwich NY 12834  
Tel: 518-692-2755

Town of Hampton  
Location: 2419 County Route 18  
PO Box 119, Hampton NY 12837  
Tel: 518-282-9830

Town of Hartford  
PO Box 214, Hartford NY 12838  
Tel: 518-632-9151  
[www.hartfordny.com](http://www.hartfordny.com)

Hebron Town Clerk  
3161 County Route 30  
Salem NY 12865  
Tel: 518- 854-3384

Hudson Falls Village Offices  
220 Main Street, Hudson Falls NY 12839  
Tel: 519-747-5426

Jackson Town Clerk  
648 Skellie Rd. Road, Salem NY 12865  
Tel: 518- 854-3254

Kingsbury Town Offices  
210 Main Street, Hudson Falls NY 12839  
Tel: 518-747-2188

Putnam Town Clerk  
Location: 474 County Route 3  
Putnam Station NY 12861  
Tel: 518-547-8317

Salem Town Office  
214 Main Street, PO Box 214  
Salem NY 12865  
Tel: 518-854-3277  
[www.salem-ny.com](http://www.salem-ny.com)

Salem Village Office  
181 Main Street, PO Box 297  
Salem NY 12865  
Tel: 518-854-3433

White Creek Town Clerk  
28 Mountain View Dr., Cambridge NY 12816  
Tel: 518-677-8545

Whitehall Town Office  
142 Main Street, Whitehall NY 12887  
Tel: 518-499-1535

Whitehall Village Clerk  
Box 207, Whitehall NY 12887  
Tel: 518-499-0871

Washington County Municipal Center  
383 Broadway  
Fort Edward, NY 12828  
518-746-2300  
[www.co.washington.ny.us](http://www.co.washington.ny.us)

## **Agriculture:**

### **History**

The family farm has significantly impacted the historical development and landscape of Washington County. “Stonewalls and fences, historic barns, farmhouses and covered bridges dot the county’s rolling hills and lush valleys.” The quaint villages throughout the county have maintained their small town rural charm with many of the historic homes still occupied by the families of their original owners. Several of the county’s farms are multi-generational, some still owned and operated by families who settled the area.

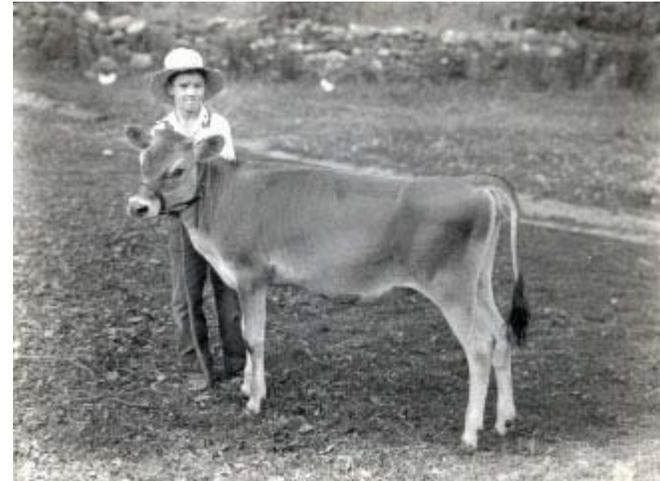
During the civil war, the county became a leading producer of potatoes when Irish and Scottish immigrants brought knowledge of potato farming to the county. A blight, along with the introduction of other agricultural activities, led to the decline of the crop’s importance to the county.

For a time the area was a leading producer of sheep, with wool being the county’s chief export until the 1840<sup>s</sup>. Merino sheep were first introduced throughout the county in 1810, but it was the southern part of the county that became the leading producer of sheep. Sheep and goat products continue to be one of the top agricultural commodities in the county ranking it 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state.

Once a year, Washington County Fiber producers open up their farms to local residents and other visitors for the “Fiber Farm Tour.” On the tour, visitors can see the animals and learn about how they are raised, as well as watch demonstrations on how wool is processed. The raising of alpacas and llamas is growing in popularity in the county and these adorable creatures are a big attraction for the tour.

By the late 1800s, dairy farming soon became and continues to be the predominant agricultural activity in the county. With the introduction of faster rail transport and pasteurization, fluid milk sales grew. By 1870, beef and dairy cattle replaced sheep as the primary livestock herds in the county.

From the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the first-half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the seed industry was highly successful throughout the county. One major seed producer, E.L. Coy, located in Hebron, produced several varieties of seed. In 1905, the company shipped 35 tons of cucumber seeds alone. The Village of Cambridge, in southern Washington County, was a major producer of seeds. The JB Rice Seed Company, and later the Asgrow Seed Company, were major area employers with wholesale customers that included Sears Roebuck and Procter & Gamble. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, until it reached its peak at the turn of the century, Rice Seed was the second largest manufacturer and distributor of seed in the country. Bentley Seeds continues the tradition from its operation in Cambridge.



Huggins boy with Jersey calf. 1930  
Photo courtesy of Cornell Cooperative Extension

## ***Washington County Farming Today***

Washington County is a leading agricultural county in the state. With 887 farms in 2002, up 1% from 1997, and a total of 206,148 acres in farms, also up 1% from 1997, Washington County was ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the state for the year 2002, in terms of acreage in farming and 11<sup>th</sup> in the state in terms of the total number of farms in the county. For total market value of agricultural products sold, the county was ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in the state with \$81,970,000 in agricultural products for the year 2002.

Washington County farms support numerous ancillary businesses such as feed & fertilizer suppliers, equipment sales and repairs, fuel and veterinary services. According to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, Washington County farms spent a total of \$78,598,000 on farm production expenses. According to the 1999 AIDER survey and report, approximately 75% of these purchases are made within the county.

The multiplier effect<sup>5</sup> of agriculture products sold in Washington County measures the economic impact (dollars circulated within the local economy) of farming at \$213 million. According to the Washington County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, no other industry in the county has a larger multiplier effect or a greater impact on the local economy.

Farmland protection is important in helping farmers to remain in farming, as well as maintaining the rural qualities of Washington County. Through the work of several land conservancy

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<sup>5</sup> Used 2002 Census of Agriculture data for the total value of agriculture products sold: \$81,970,000 and a multiplier of 2.6. A 2.6 multiplier is indicated in both the Washington County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan and 1999 AIDER report as a conservative multiplier. A multiplier represents dollars circulated within the local economy (at \$2.60 per every dollar of gross agricultural sales).

organizations, a total of 5,800 acres of Washington County's farmland are conserved for future farming. The Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA), a local farmland conservancy organization, has help to protect 4,860 acres, and is currently in the process of protecting another 900 acres. This will bring the total number of acres under easements in Washington County to 6,700.<sup>6</sup>

For more information on farmland protection in Washington County, please contact: **Agricultural Stewardship Association**, 14 Main Street, Suite 100 Greenwich NY 12834  
Tel: 518- 692-7285 e-mail: [asa@agstewardship.org](mailto:asa@agstewardship.org)  
<http://www.agstewardship.org>.

In the county, as in the rest of the state, dairy farming is the county's leading agricultural activity. In 2003, Washington County had 177 dairy farms with a total of 23,700 cows. The county produced 368,000,000 pounds of milk in 2003 with total milk marketed valued at \$ 31,035,000 placing Washington County as the 11<sup>th</sup> leading dairy county in the state. The total value of Washington County dairy sales, according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, was \$61,170,000.

Many farm fresh products are grown or raised with pride in Washington County. Variety is an important factor in Washington County's agricultural economy and many of the states top agricultural products are produced here in the county. Hay, which is Washington County's largest crop commodity in terms of production, is one of the state's top five commodities. Corn grown for silage is Washington County's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest crop in terms of production and the state is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest producer nationally of this crop.

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<sup>6</sup> To date, the ASA has preserved over 3,000 acres within Washington County through easement purchases.

Maple syrup products and apples are important cash crops to the county. Come visit one of the county's many sugarhouses to enjoy the sights and smells of the syrup producing process. Some sugarhouses operate restaurants and stores where you may sample the product on a fresh stack of warm pancakes or pick up some maple candy to bring home. Every March many of the county's maple producers participate in the statewide "**Annual Maple Open House Weekend.**" For information, contact the Washington County Tourism Association, 383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828 Tel: 518-499-2435 or 746-2294 [www.washingtoncounty.org](http://www.washingtoncounty.org).

Apples are New York State's official fruit. Producing 1.8 billion pounds of apples in 2004 with total receipts of \$153 million, the state is the second largest producer of apples in the US. Washington County has a number of orchards that sell commercially and directly to the public. The state's oldest U-pick orchard, Hicks Orchard in Granville has been serving the public for over 100 years, attracting over 35,000 visitors each fall. Other u-pick farms include those offering a variety of berries, pumpkins and even potatoes.

Washington County's Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) has produced a map and resource guide for locating many of the county's farms, orchards, roadside stands, as well as information on agricultural related events. The map is posted on the CCE's website: [www.cce.cornell.edu/washington](http://www.cce.cornell.edu/washington).

For a copy of "**Washington County Farms; A Resource Guide to Farms in Washington County, New York**" or for additional information on agriculture in Washington County, including food producers and product information, agriculture supplies, farm tours and support programs please contact: **Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)** at 415 Lower Main Street/ Annex Bldg. #1, Hudson Falls NY 12839 Tel: 518-746-2560 Tel: Toll Free 1-800-548-0881 Fax: 518-746-2419 E-mail: [washington@cornell.edu](mailto:washington@cornell.edu)

## ***Come to the Fair***

Washington County celebrates its agricultural heritage every August at one of the largest and oldest county fairs in New



York State. Drawing approximately 120,000 people, it is the third largest county fair in the State in terms of attendance. Established in 1885, the fair has had several locations over its long history and has been at its current location in the Town of Easton since 1954. The fair expanded over the years from its original 25 acres to 68 acres to accommodate the growing number of exhibitors. The weeklong fair features traditional events, such as livestock and produce competitions, as well as mid-way rides.

A fair favorite is the **Farm Machinery Museum** that houses an outstanding collection of farm machinery and implements where visitors can learn about the past lifestyles of farming households. The fairgrounds also feature a **One-Room Schoolhouse Museum** and **Caboose Museum**.

The Fairgrounds and its facilities, including a grandstand (capacity: 4,000), are available for events. Contact: **Washington County Fair**, 392 Old Schuylerville Road, Greenwich NY 12834 Tel: 518-692-2464 Website: [www.washingtoncountyfair.com](http://www.washingtoncountyfair.com).



### ***Farmers' Markets***

Seasonal offerings and locally produced products are available at many farmers' markets and roadside stands throughout Washington County.

#### **Cambridge Village**

Cambridge Freight Yard  
Sunday: 10am to 2pm  
May through October

#### **Fort Edward**

Broadway Lanes Parking Lot, Route 4  
Friday: 10am to 1pm  
June through October

#### **Granville**

Main Street  
Tuesday: 3 to 6:30pm  
June through October

#### **Greenwich**

Greenwich Plaza  
Saturday: 9am to 12pm  
May through October

Main Street (former IGA parking lot)  
Thursday: 2 to 5:30pm  
June through October

#### **Hudson Falls**

Sutherland's parking lot (Dix Avenue)  
Tuesday: 10am to 1pm  
June through October

#### **Middle Granville**

Cosey Oil Parking Lot  
Middle Granville Rd.  
Tuesday: 2 to 5pm  
May through October

#### **Salem**

Salem Park, Main Street  
Saturday: 10am to 1pm  
June through October

#### **Whitehall**

The Boulevard Park, across from the canal.  
Tuesday: 2 to 5pm  
June through October

#### **County Municipal Center**

Upper Broadway, Fort Edward  
Wednesday: 11 am to 2 pm  
June through October

## **Educational Facilities and Training Opportunities:**

The area is known for its high quality schools and safe neighborhoods. In 2005, Expansion Magazine ranked the GF/MSA 13<sup>th</sup> nationwide for the overall quality of its secondary schools. According to the article's chief editor, "the quality of public schools is a major concern to companies that will soon be looking to these young adults as future employees."

### **Washington County Centralized School Districts (CSD)**

There are eleven (11) CSDs in the county. The CSDs are listed below along with the number of schools for each school type and the grade level for each CSD:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Number/ Schools</b>
Argyle	1 (K-12)
Cambridge	1 (K-12)
Fort Ann	1(PK –12)
Fort Edward	1 (K-12)
Granville	1(K-2) 1 ES (3-6) 1 JSHS (7-12)
Greenwich	1 ES (K-6) 1 JSHS (7-12)
Hartford	1(K-12)
Hudson Falls	1(K) 1 P (1-3) 1 IS (4-5) 1 MS (6-8) 1 HS (9-12)
Putnam	1(PK-6)
Salem	1 (K-12)
Whitehall	1 (K-12)

### **Private Schools in Washington County**

<b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>ADDRESS &amp; TEL</b>
(The) Adirondack School of Northeastern New York	5158 County Route 113, Greenwich, NY 12834 Tel: 518-695-5294
Greater Glens Falls Christian Academy	1 ½ West Street, Hudson Falls, NY 12839 Tel: 518-747-5830
Kingsbury Junior Academy (SDA)	3991 State Route 4, Hudson Falls, NY 12839 Tel: 518-747-4424
Truthville Christian Academy	PO BOX 197, North Granville, NY 12854 Tel: 518-642-2517

The Washington County Head-Start program offers comprehensive education, health, nutrition and parent involvement services to low-income children and their families. The administrative offices are located at 18 River St. in Hudson Falls. They can be reached by phone at 518-747-2816

### **Career and Technical Education (BOCES)**

Board of Cooperative Educational Services  
10 La Crosse Street  
Hudson Falls, NY 12839  
Tel: 518-581-3310 or 746-3310  
Fax: 518-581-3319 or 746-3319  
[www.wswheboces.org](http://www.wswheboces.org)



## ***Adirondack Community College***

Adirondack Community College, a part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, is a two-year college accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools offering a wide variety of Associate degrees and Certificate programs. ACC offers small classes, dedicated faculty, and a newly designed, hi-tech campus located in the beautiful Adirondack foothills. Childcare is available on campus for students and staff. ACC is sponsored by Washington and Warren Counties and is governed by local and state trustees.

The J. Buckley Bryan, Jr. ACC '87, '94 Regional Higher Education Center opened on January 22, 2009 and is devoted exclusively to the growing number of bachelor's and master's degree programs that are offered on the ACC campus by SUNY Plattsburgh, Empire State College and, in the future, other four-year colleges and universities. It is the first center of its type established by a New York community college, and will help to make advanced degrees more convenient and affordable for area residents. Students can now earn SUNY Plattsburgh and

Empire State College bachelor's and master's degrees entirely on the ACC campus.

To request information, please contact: Adirondack Community College: 640 Bay Road, Queensbury NY 12804  
Tel: 518-743-2200.

## ***Regional Colleges and Universities***

Many outstanding colleges and universities are located within easy commuting distance.

### **Two-Year Institutions**

#### **Adirondack Community College**

640 Bay Road  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
Tel: 743-2200  
[info@acc.sunyacc.edu](mailto:info@acc.sunyacc.edu)

#### **ITT Technical Institute**

13 Airline Drive  
Albany, NY 12205  
Tel: 452-9300  
[www.itt-tech.edu](http://www.itt-tech.edu)

#### **Bryant & Stratton Business Institute**

1259 Central Avenue  
Albany, NY 12205  
Tel: 437-1802  
[www.bryantstratton.edu](http://www.bryantstratton.edu)

#### **Junior College of Albany**

140 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208  
Tel: 445-1730  
[www.sage.edu](http://www.sage.edu)

#### **Community College of Vermont (CCV):**

A Vermont State College  
24 Evelyn Street  
Rutland, VT 05701  
Tel: 802-786-6996  
[www.ccv.edu/locations/rutland](http://www.ccv.edu/locations/rutland)

#### **Maria College**

700 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208  
Tel: 438-3111  
[www.mariacollege.edu](http://www.mariacollege.edu)

#### **Hudson Valley Community College**

80 Vandenberg Avenue  
Troy, NY 12180  
Tel: 283-1110  
[www.hvcc.edu](http://www.hvcc.edu)

#### **Schenectady County Community College**

78 Washington Avenue  
Schenectady, NY 12305  
Tel: 341-1366  
[www.sunysccc.edu](http://www.sunysccc.edu)

## Four-Year and Graduate Institutions

### **Albany College of Pharmacy**

106 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208  
Tel: 445-7221  
[www.acp.edu](http://www.acp.edu)

### **Albany Law School**

80 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, N.Y. 12208  
Tel: 445.2311  
[www.albanylaw.edu](http://www.albanylaw.edu)

### **Albany Medical College**

43 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208  
Tel: 262-6008  
[www.amc.edu](http://www.amc.edu)

### **Bennington College**

One College Drive  
Bennington, VT 05201  
Tel: 802-442-5401  
[www.bennington.edu](http://www.bennington.edu)

### **Castleton State College**

86 Seminary Street  
Castleton, VT 05735  
Tel: 802- 468-5611  
[www.castleton.edu](http://www.castleton.edu)

### **Graduate College of Union University**

807 Union Street  
Lamont House  
Schenectady, NY 12308  
Tel: 388-6148  
[www.graduatecollege.union.edu](http://www.graduatecollege.union.edu)

### **College of St. Joseph**

71 Clement Rd  
Rutland, VT 05701  
Tel:802-773-5900  
Toll Free: 877-270-9998  
[www.csj.edu](http://www.csj.edu)

### **College of St. Rose**

432 Western Avenue  
Albany, NY 12203  
Tel: 454-5150  
[www.strose.edu](http://www.strose.edu)

### **Empire State College: Saratoga Unit**

111 West Avenue  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-6048  
Tel: 587-2100 ext. 2297  
[www.esc.edu](http://www.esc.edu)

### **Empire State College at Queensbury**

Adirondack Community College  
Room 134, Washington Hall  
Queensbury, NY 12804  
Tel: 743-2200, ext. 2443  
[www.esc.edu](http://www.esc.edu)

### **Excelsior College**

7 Columbia Circle  
Albany NY 12203  
Tel:464-8500  
[www.excelsior.edu](http://www.excelsior.edu)

### **Siena College**

McGuire Hall  
Loudonville, NY 12211  
Tel: 783-2423  
[www.siena.edu](http://www.siena.edu)

### **Green Mountain College**

One College Circle  
Poultney, Vermont 05764  
Toll free: 800-776-6675  
[www.greenmtn.edu](http://www.greenmtn.edu)

### **Marlboro College**

P.O. Box A  
2582 South Road  
Marlboro, VT 05344-0300  
Switchboard: 802-257-4333  
[www.marlboro.edu](http://www.marlboro.edu)

### **Middlebury College**

Admissions Office  
Emma Willard House  
Route 30  
Middlebury, VT 05753  
Tel: 802-443-5198  
[www.middlebury.edu](http://www.middlebury.edu)

### **Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)**

110 Eighth Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
Tel: 270-6216  
[www.rpi.edu](http://www.rpi.edu)

### **Russell Sage College**

45 Ferry Street  
Troy, NY 12180  
Tel:270-2217  
[www.sage.edu](http://www.sage.edu)

### **Skidmore College**

North Broadway  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866  
Tel: 584-5000  
[www.skidmore.edu](http://www.skidmore.edu)

### **Southern Vermont College**

982 Mansion Dr.  
Bennington, VT 05201-6002  
Tel: 802-442-5427  
[www.svc.edu](http://www.svc.edu)

### **University at Albany**

1400 Washington Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222  
Tel: 457-8996  
[www.albany.edu](http://www.albany.edu)

### **Union College**

Becker Hall  
Schenectady, NY 12308  
Tel: 388-6000  
[www.union.edu](http://www.union.edu)

### **William College**

Office of Admissions  
22 Stetson Court  
Williamstown, MA 01267  
Admissions: 413-597-2211  
Switchboard: 413-597-3131  
[www.williams.edu](http://www.williams.edu)

## **Community Resources**

### ***Libraries***

**Argyle Free Library**  
Sheridan St., PO Box 238  
Argyle, NY 12809  
518-638-8911

**Bancroft Public Library**  
181 South Main St.  
Salem, NY 12865  
518-854-7463

**Cambridge Public Library**  
West Main St.  
Cambridge, NY 12816

**Easton Public Library**  
1074 St. Rt. 40  
Greenwich, NY 12834  
518-692-2253

**Fort Edward Free Library**  
23 East St.  
Fort Edward, NY 12828  
518-747-6743

**Old Stone House Library**  
36 George St.  
Fort Ann, NY 12827  
518-639-4071

**Greenwich Free Library**  
Main & Academy St.  
Greenwich, NY 12834  
518-692-7157

**The Hudson Falls Free Library**  
220 Main St.  
Hudson Falls, NY 12839  
518-747-6406

**Issac C. Griswold Library**  
12 Williams St.  
Whitehall, NY 12887

**The Pember Library & Museum**  
33 West Main St.  
Granville, NY 12832  
518-642-2525

**Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS):** 22 Whitney  
Place, Saratoga Springs NY 12866-4596  
Tel: 518-584-7300 Fax: 518-587-5589

SALS allows local libraries to expand the scope of their collections and services. SALS maintains an extensive database which is used to create catalogs for libraries in an eight county region. This database allows local library users to access to over two million books, videos, audiocassettes, periodicals and other materials. People with specialized requests for information and research materials have access to SALS' interlibrary loan system and delivery service through their public library.

## ***Hospitals and Medical Services***

Washington County residents are served locally by several regional hospitals. Many larger hospitals, including teaching hospitals, serve the greater regional needs in the Capital District, which is less than an hour south of Washington County and in Burlington, Vermont.

### **Regional Hospitals**

#### **Glens Falls Hospital**

100 Park St., Glens Falls NY 12801  
518-926-1000

#### **Rutland Regional Medical Center**

160 Allen St., Rutland, VT 05701  
802-775-7111

#### **Southwestern Vermont Medical Center**

100 Hospital Dr. East, Bennington Vt. 05201  
802-442-6361

Glens Falls Hospital is the largest hospital between Montreal, Canada and Albany, NY. Glens Falls Hospital offers “medical expertise, programs & services typically found only in large, metropolitan areas.” Emergency care, integrated cancer treatment programs, surgical services, rehabilitation services, outpatient testing and behavioral health programs are just some of the services offered. Glens Falls Hospital operates the following health centers that serve Washington County residents.

## **Medical Centers**

#### **Cambridge Family Health Center**

33 Gilbert St.  
Cambridge, NY 12816  
Tel: 518-677-3961

#### **Fort Hudson Nursing Home Inc.**

319 Broadway  
Fort Edward, NY 12828  
Tel: 518-747-2811

#### **Granville Family Health Center**

79 North St.  
Granville, NY 12832  
Tel: 518-642-0612

#### **Greenwich Family Health Center**

200 Main St.  
Greenwich, NY 12834  
Tel: 518-692-9861

#### **Indian River Rehabilitation & Nursing Center**

17 Madison St.  
Granville, NY 12832  
Tel: 518-642-2710

#### **The Orchard Nursing & Rehabilitation Center**

10421 State Rt, 40  
Granville, NY 12832  
Tel: 518-642-2346

#### **Pleasant Valley**

State Route 40  
Argyle, NY 12809  
Tel: 518-638-8274

#### **Salem Family Health Center**

213 Main St.  
Salem, NY 12865  
Tel: 518-854-3821

#### **Whitehall Health Center**

65 Poultney Rd.  
Whitehall, NY 12887  
Tel: 518-499-2444

## **Child Care**

### **Southern Adirondack Childcare Network**

88 Broad St., Glens Falls, NY 12801

Tel: 518-798-7972

Toll free: 800-807-3224

[info@saccn.org](mailto:info@saccn.org)

### **Washington County Child Care Programs**

Grays Corners Rd., Whitehall, NY 12887

Tel: 518-499-1900

### **Adirondack Community College Child Care Center**

640 Bay Rd., Queensbury, NY 12804

Tel: 518-793-0529

Available for ACC teachers, students and staff.

For a “Directory of Services and Resources for Children, Youth & Families”, contact the Washington County Youth Bureau at 518-746-2330.

## **Emergency Services**

The Washington County area was twice acknowledged in 2005 for its high level of safety and security. Out of 330 Metropolitan Areas, the Glens Falls MSA was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the findings of the 12th Annual Safest City and Metropolitan Area Awards. These awards are announced annually and are featured in **City Crime Rankings 12<sup>th</sup> Edition**. In addition, it was ranked 5<sup>th</sup> nationwide as one of the “most secure” by the Farmers Insurance Group.

A countywide system for the dispatch and provision of police, fire and other emergency services ensures County residents a high level of security and comfort. Washington County’s larger villages have their own paid police departments. Smaller villages and rural areas are serviced by the County Sheriff’s Department or the New York State Police.

Fire departments and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in the County are all volunteer agencies with some paid staffing. The County’s Department of Public Safety’s 911 Communications Center provides 24 hour dispatch services seven days a week to law enforcement, fire departments and EMS throughout the county. All agencies also have a 7-digit non-emergency or administrative telephone line.

## **Religious and Civic Organizations**

Most of the area’s churches and other places of worship have served congregations for a century or more and are integral to the social fabric of Washington County. These institutions offer many services and activities to their respective communities. A wide range of activities and opportunities to participate in community affairs are available through numerous youth and senior citizens’ groups, social, fraternal, cultural, civic and service organizations, as well as many business and professional associations.

## **Transportation:**

Modern transportation facilities have contributed to the economic growth of the county. The trade corridor between Canada and New York possesses an advanced transport infrastructure that includes fully modernized rail access to much of North America. Canal access to the Atlantic coast and Great Lakes is provided by the Champlain Canal, and an interstate highway system connects the regions businesses and industry to the entire North American Continent.

This area is part of the Champlain–Hudson Gateway and Trade Corridor, providing the critical transportation links between Canada and the U.S. The corridor is becoming more than a growing commercial route — it has become a bi-national economic region. As one of the most important such corridors in North America, the Montreal to New York City connection is critical to the economies of both countries.

### ***Interstates and US Highways***

Access to an interstate highway system via the scenic Adirondack Northway (Interstate 87), connects the area to major metropolitan markets in the Northeast, Canada and the Midwest. In addition, US Route 4 provides a major connection from the NYS Capital District to New England and in particular to the larger ski areas of Vermont.

### ***State and County Highways***

Washington County's highways provide access to neighboring counties and Vermont and provide connections between the county's nine villages. These routes serve as important commercial and retail corridors regionally and within the county. Major routes include NYS Route 22, which runs along the

eastern boundary of the county making several connections to Vermont. NYS Route 22 travels north into Essex County through Ticonderoga. NYS Route 40 provides a north-west route in southern Washington County, then crosses the county at its core to connect with NYS Route 22 in the north. NYS Route 149 connects NYS Route 9 in Warren County near Lake George to US Route 4. NYS Route 149 continues traveling straight across the county and connects to NYS Route 22 in Granville on the Vermont border. In the south, NYS Route 29 provides a connection to NYS Route 22 and a direct route to Saratoga Springs from the Village of Greenwich. Several county, town, village and other local roads complete the county's transportation network.

Selected traffic volumes for State Routes in Washington County: 2003 report				
Route	Start (from)	End (to)	Year	AADT
Route 4	END Route 197 overlap FE	NYS Route 196 Jct Hudson Falls	2006	16550
Route 4	Route 196 Jct Hudson Falls	NYS Route 254 Jct Hudson Falls	2006	24750
Route 4	Route 254 Jct Hudson Falls	Old Route 32 Jct Feeder St	2006	7598
Route 4	END Route 149 overlap Fort Ann	START Rte 22 overlap Comstock	2006	11333
Route 4	END Route 22 overlap Whitehall	Vermont State line	2006	3598
Route 29	START Route 40 overlap	END Route 40 overlap	2006	9507
Route 29	END Route 40 overlap	Route 372 junction	2006	10400
Route 32	Dean Road & Feeder Street	Route 4 Junction	2006	12687
Route 32	Route 4 Junction	Route 196 Junction	2006	9443
Route 32	Warren County line	Dean Road & Feeder Street	2006	14141
Route 197	Saratoga County Line	START Route 4 overlap Ft Edward	2006	11282
Route 254	Warren County Line	Route 4 Junction	2006	13931

Traffic counts are taken in sections. Route indicates the NYS Route number. Start and end indicates where each section begins and ends. The AADT or Annual Average Daily Traffic is the measurement of the total traffic volume in both directions. These volumes may vary, as the data is not adjusted for seasonal activities or for weekday versus weekend traffic. The date indicates the year the count was taken.

### ***Motor Carriers***

There are a number of fine motor carriers based in the region, including a number in Washington County. Please consult the Local Development Corporation, a Chamber of Commerce or a local telephone book for more detailed information.

## ***Waterways and Ports***

New York State ports, including New York City, Buffalo and Albany, handle much of the foreign trade of the United States. Access to leading ports is just one reason why many of the nation's leading industrial firms are headquartered in New York State. The deepwater **Port of Albany** is approximately 50 miles south of Washington County. The port provides year-round waterway transportation along the Hudson River, which is an important traffic artery between Albany and New York City. Area roadways connect the port with major interstate highways and rail lines place cargo in close proximity to any location in North America. Rail service to the port is provided by Conrail and Canadian Pacific (CP) Rail via the Albany Port Railroad Corporation. Both Conrail and CP Rail have major classification yards in close proximity to the port, assuring adequate car supply and timely service. The Albany International Airport is only 15 minutes from the port.

The **Port of New York**, a bi-state port, includes terminals in New York City and New Jersey. Approximately 160 miles south of Albany, it is the leading container port in terms of volume with more scheduled services to a wider variety of trade lanes than any other port in North America. Just a couple hours to the north is the second highest volume port in North America, the **Port of Montreal**. The Port of Montreal offers fast, direct and year-round access to major markets in Central Canada, the U.S. Midwest and the U.S. Northeast. Montreal's inland location is actually an advantage to U.S. Midwestern shippers sending goods to Europe, because they can save on costs for overland transportation that would be incurred by using ports on the Atlantic. Montreal carriers offer several scheduled transatlantic services to Northern Europe and the Mediterranean.

**The Hudson River**, which is navigable year-round, serves to connect the revitalized Erie and Champlain Canal systems allowing water-based transportation to the Great Lake ports in Buffalo, Burlington VT and New York City to the south. The Hudson River feeds into the state's extensive 524-mile canal system. **The New York State Canal System** joins the Hudson at Albany and follows the course of the old historic Erie Canal. The canal system is comprised of four historic waterways, the Erie, the Champlain, the Oswego and the Cayuga-Seneca Canals. The **Champlain Canal** connects the Hudson with **Lake Champlain** to the north and the **Great Lakes** via the Erie Canal.



Lock 7, Champlain Canal

Today the canal system carries only minor tonnages of mostly bulk commodities. The New York State Canal Corporation, a subsidiary of the New York State Thruway Authority, operates the canal system and is working to redevelop the canal system. Built over 175 years ago, the canals today are primarily used for pleasure boating and recreation along its many bike paths, trails, and recreational marinas.

The tradition of navigation on New York's Canals continues uninterrupted, and the resurgence of development in the historic communities begins again, as it did in the mid-1800s. Today, NYS is committed to preserving the legacy of this waterway system and the towpaths that now make up a portion of a multi-use recreational network of trails.

#### **Boater/Visitor Information**, including Canalway

Trails: 1-800-4CANAL4 (422-6254)

Navigation: 1-800- 422-1825

Champlain Canal Section Office

NYS Canal Corporation, PO Box 87, Fort Edward NY 12828

Tel: 518-747-4613

### ***Rail Services***

Main line service to Washington County is provided by **D & H Railroad**, a wholly owned subsidiary of the **Canadian Pacific Railroad**. As noted above, Canadian Pacific has major classification yards in close proximity to the Port of Albany. Canadian Pacific also has dockside rail access with no intermediate transshipment at the Ports of Montreal and New York. The Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) is a Class 1 North American railway providing freight transportation services over a 14,000-mile network in Canada and the U.S and is one of the largest rail networks in North America. The high density network serves virtually every major sector and ships commodities like grain, coal and lumber, as well as cars, agricultural equipment, home electronics, food and furniture. **Vermont Railway Inc.**

operates a railroad in northeastern Washington County with access to New England and connections to North America.

The **Battenkill Railroad** operates nearly 35 miles of track in Southern Washington County stretching from Thomson to Eagle Bridge where it connects with the Canadian Pacific Railway system. The Battenkill Railroad provides transportation of grain, animal feed and fertilizer to and from Washington County farms saving an average of \$400,000 annually in trucking shipments. The railway is currently undergoing a \$4 million infrastructure improvement campaign financed and administered by both New York State and Washington County.

Several stations in the area, including two Washington County train stations, are served by passenger lines that run between New York City and Montreal. Departing daily from New York's Penn Station, Amtrak's "**Adirondack**" travels through the Hudson Valley and the Adirondacks, arriving in Montreal in the evening. Named one of the 10 best train trips in the World by National Geographic Traveler, the "Adirondack" has local stops in Saratoga Springs, Fort Edward, Whitehall and Ticonderoga, NY.

The "**Ethan Allen Express**" is financed and operated in partnership with the State of Vermont and runs daily between New York City's Penn Station and Rutland, Vermont. This line takes you to all the outdoor adventures that both New York and Vermont have to offer. The Ethan Allen Express has local stops in New York at Saratoga Springs, Fort Edward, and Whitehall, as well as Fair Haven and Rutland in Vermont.

Both the "**Adirondack**" and the "**Ethan Allen Express**" travel through some of the most breathtaking landscapes of the Northeast. From the lush greens of summer to the fabulous color of the fall foliage, any season will provide the rider with a scenic train trip of a lifetime. You may board a southbound train of either of these passenger services anywhere along the line

and arrive in mid-town Manhattan in time for dinner and a night on the town. Once in New York, you can board connecting trains for Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, DC.

**Fort Edward Train Station (FED)**

70 East Street  
Fort Edward NY  
12828

*This recently restored historic station is the half-way point between Montreal and New York City.*



The **Greater Glens Falls Transit System (GGFT)** offers a direct bus service with connections for inbound and outbound AMTRAK passengers to and from the Fort Edward train station. The "**AMTRAK Train - Catcher Service**" is available 7 days a week and can be arranged by calling (518) 792-1085 at least 48 hours prior to arrival.

**Whitehall Train Station (WHL)**

Main and Saunders Streets  
Whitehall NY 12887

*This station was built in the early to mid 1990s*

[www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)

For reservation or accessibility information, please call a service representative at **1-800-USA-RAIL (1-800-872-7245) or TDD/TTY (1-800-523-6590).**

**Air Services**

**Commercial Airports**

<p><b>Albany International Airport</b> 737 Albany-Shaker Rd. Albany, NY 12211 (518) 464-5010 <a href="http://www.albanyairport.com">www.albanyairport.com</a> Major carriers: American, Continental Express, Delta, Northwest, Southwest, United and US Airways.</p>	<p><b>Burlington International Airport</b> 1200 Airport Dr. South Burlington VT. 05403 (800) 863-1889 <a href="http://www.VermontAirports.com">www.VermontAirports.com</a> Major Carriers: United, Jet Blue, Continental, Delta, Northwest, Independence and US Airways.</p>
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**Public Airports**

<p><b>Argyle Airport</b> Route 40 Argyle NY 12809 (518) 638-9723</p>	<p><b>Rutland State Airport</b> 1002 Airport Rd. Clarendon VT (802) 773-3348</p>
<p><b>Chapin Airfield</b> 2381 State Rt. 22 Cambridge, NY 12816 Dick Record: (518) 677-3866</p>	<p><b>Saratoga County Airport</b> 3654 Galway Rd. Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (518) 885-5354</p>
<p><b>Fair Haven Municipal Airfield</b> 3 N. Park Place Fair Haven VT 05743 (802) 265-3010</p>	<p><b>Ticonderoga Municipal Airport</b> Highway Dept. Old Chilson Road Ticonderoga NY 12858 (518) 585-7317</p>
<p><b>Floyd Bennett Memorial Airport</b> 443 Queensbury Ave, Room 201 Queensbury NY 12804 (518) 792-5995</p>	<p><b>William H. Morse State Airport</b> RR 1, Box 1104 Airport Rd. Bennington VT 05201 (802) 447-2111</p>
<p><b>Granville Airport</b> PO Box 183 Granville NY 12832 Contact Neal Hulett: (518) 642-1380</p>	

## **Area Bus Terminals**

Two major bus lines, Greyhound and Adirondack Trailways, make daily stops in the area at locations listed below. Hours are subject to change; please call to verify.

### **Greyhound**

Toll free: 800-231-2222 & 800-454-2487 (Greyhound Charter)

[www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)

### **Adirondack Trailways**

Toll free: 800-225-6815 & 800-776-7548 Extensions 146 & 169  
(Tours & Charters) [www.trailwaysny.com](http://www.trailwaysny.com)

### **Greyhound and Adirondack Trailways Shared Terminal**

2 Hudson Avenue, Glens Falls, NY 12801 (518) 793-5525

#### **Hours**

Mon-Fri: 7:30 AM to 4:45 PM

Sat: 7:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Sun: 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years Day

### **Adirondack Trailways**

Saratoga Diner, 153 South Broadway, Rt. 9  
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

#### **Hours**

Mon-Fri & Holidays: 8 AM to 4 PM

Sat: 11 AM to 4 PM

Closed Sundays, Thanksgiving & Christmas

### **Greyhound**

102 West Street, Rutland, VT 05701  
(802) 773-2774

#### **Hours**

Mon-Fri: 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM

Sat: 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM

Sundays & Holidays: 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM & 4:00 PM to 5:30PM

## **Local Public Bus Service**

The **Greater Glens Falls Transit System (GGFT)** provides bus service daily\* throughout the Glens Falls Urbanized area including regular stops in the Hudson Falls /Fort Edward area (See Rail Service section for information on daily/direct bus service to and from the Amtrak station in Fort Edward). All of GGFT's fixed route buses are equipped with lifts & bike racks.  
Tel: 518-792-1085

\*Monday thru Friday: 6:00 AM to 6:30 PM. Saturdays: 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. No regular service on Sundays or the following Holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Exception: Lake George Trolleys will operate 7 days a week during the summer season.

### **FAME**

Transit service for people with disabilities is available in areas where GGFT's regular route service is provided. FAME provides curb-to-curb transportation on an advance reservation basis. FAME is available six days a week. The fare for FAME service is twice what the regular fare would be on a fixed route bus. User must be certified to use this service. Tel: 518-792-1085

## **Utilities:**

Utility services include: electric power, natural gas, water supply, sewage removal, and telecommunications, including internet services, cellular communications and cable television. Specific activities vary by utility. For example: electric power includes generation, transmission, and distribution; natural gas includes distribution; water supply includes treatment and distribution; and sewage removal includes collection, treatment, and disposal of waste through sewer systems and sewage treatment facilities.

### ***Electricity and Natural Gas***

Most communities obtain electricity and natural gas from either National Grid (NG) or New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG). NG offers negotiated flexible electric rates for many types of new businesses, as well as negotiable gas transportation rates and fixed rate gas discounts. NYSEG has various economic development programs available to help grow your business, as well.

#### **National Grid**

300 Erie Boulevard W., Syracuse NY 13202-4205

Customer Service: (800) 642-4272

Emergency: (800) 892-02345

Special Commercial and Industrial Group: (800) 664-6729

#### **New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG)**

PO Box 3287 Ithaca-Dryden Rd., Ithaca NY 14852-3287

Customer Service: (800) 572-1111

Emergency: (800) 572-1131

Economic Development: (800) 456-5153

## ***Water and Sewer Service***

Sewer and water service may be provided through a local municipal system. The county owns and operates two sewer districts. One that serves multiple communities in the urbanized area along the Hudson River and another that services the Airport Industrial Park. Several communities contract to procure water from adjacent communities having excess filtration capacity. Private wells are used extensively throughout the rural and suburban areas of the county.

### **Municipal Water Supplies**

Municipality	Service Area	Source	Contact
Village of Argyle	Village	Groundwater	(518) 638-8681
Village of Cambridge*	Village	Reservoir	(570) 226-1528
Village of Fort Ann	Village	Groundwater	(518) 744-1232
Town of Fort Edward	Town	Hudson River	(518) 747-5501
Village of Fort Edward	Village	Reservoir	(518) 792-0419
Town of Granville	3-mile Corridor along Rts. 17 & 22	Groundwater	(518) 642-2560
Village of Granville	Village	Groundwater	(518) 642-1815
Village of Greenwich	Village	Groundwater	(518) 692-7743
Village of Hudson Falls	Village	Hudson River	(518) 747-4544
Town of Kingsbury	Dix Avenue Corridor	Hudson River	(518) 747-6231
Village of Salem	Village	Groundwater	(518) 854-9712
Village of Whitehall	Village	Pine Lake	(518) 499-0871

\*Maintained by Aqua New York Inc.

## Municipal Sewer Districts

Municipality	Service Area	Contact
Washington County (I)	Airport Industrial Park	(518) 747-6967
Washington County (II)	Villages of Hudson Falls and Fort Edward and portions of Kingsbury and the Town of Fort Edward	(518) 747-6967
Town of Dresden	Hulett's Landing	(518) 499-2597
Village of Fort Ann	Village	(518) 744-1232
Village of Granville	Village	(518) 642-1815
Village of Greenwich	Village	(518) 692-7743
Village of Whitehall	Village	(518) 499-2681

More detailed specifications for any municipal water or sewer system can be obtained by contacting the number listed for a particular system or by contacting the Washington County Department of Planning and Community Development at (518) 746-2290.

## Solid Waste

The Washington County Solid Waste Division operates five **Recycling/Transfer Stations** conveniently located throughout the county. There are three components of Solid Waste Management in Washington County. In addition to landfills for non-burnable solid waste, the county has a comprehensive Recycling Program. For more information contact:

### Washington County DPW: Solid Waste Division

383 Broadway, 2nd floor Bldg. A, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel 518-746-2445

## Recycling/Transfer Stations

Hours: 6:30am-4:30pm: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

Town	Location	Contact
Granville	Rt. 22, ½ Mile South of Rt. 149 Intersection	642-3026
Greenwich	Corner of Fiddler's Elbow and Bald Mt. Roads	692-7505
Jackson	Content Farm Rd., ¼ Mile West of County Rt. 78	677-8687
Kingsbury	Route 196, 3 Miles East of Rt. 4 Intersection	747-8196
Whitehall	Route 22, 2 Miles North of Rt. 4 Intersection	499-2369

## Resource recover/ Bio-mass electrical generation facility

A publicly owned/ privately operated mass burn, waste-to-energy facility is located in Washington County. It provides for the disposal of municipal solid waste for Washington and Warren counties. At full capacity, the plant generates enough electrical energy for over 12,000 homes.

The facility was built in 1991 and is owned by the Industrial Development Agency of Washington and Warren Counties. The plant is operated by Wheelabrator Hudson Falls LLC and provides 14.5 megawatts of electricity to Washington and Warren Counties which is delivered by National Grid. For more information, contact Wheelabrator at (800) 682-0026 or online at: [www.wheelabratortechnologies.com](http://www.wheelabratortechnologies.com)

## Telecommunications and Internet

A number of telecommunications companies provide services to the region and the world. Cellular (wireless) service is available throughout the county and the region from most major providers, including: T-Mobile, Verizon Wireless, NEXTEL, Sprint, Cingular, CR Wireless and ABC Wireless. Digital telecommunications service is available as well through the area's cable television companies and through satellite technology. The following telecommunications companies provide service to the area:

Telephone Service Providers	
<b>Verizon</b>	
Residential	890-1550
Business	890-6464
<b>Sprint</b>	
Residential	1-800-877-4646
Business	1-800-877-2000
<b>AT&amp;T</b>	
Residential	1-800-222-0300
Business	1-800-222-0400
<b>MCI</b>	
Residential	1-800-959-5555

A fiber optic cable runs along the entire Interstate 87 corridor bringing a full range of Internet service options to the area. Cable High Speed Internet access and DSL broadband technology is readily available in the urban areas and larger towns of the county. Satellite systems and Wireless IPS make broadband service available throughout the region. T-1, T-2 and T-3 lines are common in the urban areas of the region and most telecommunications companies now provide Frame Relay service for customers who want connections at 56 Kbps to T-1 speeds.

**Time Warner** is the cable provider in the area. They also offer high-speed cable internet services. They can be contacted at (518) 745-1600 or online at [www.timewarnercable.com](http://www.timewarnercable.com)

**Verizon Online** also offers internet access via DSL, Dial-Up and Wireless services. They can be contacted at 518-890-0200 or online at [www.verizononline.com](http://www.verizononline.com)

## Media Contacts

### Radio Stations

Station(s)	Address	Phone
WBZA; WNYQ; WENU; WFFG	89 Everts Ave. Queensbury NY 12804	(518) 793-7733
WNYV	PO Box 141 Whitehall NY 12887	(518) 499-2438
WCKM; WCQL; WWSC	128 Glen St. Glens Falls NY 12801	(518) 761-9890
WVNR	1214 Rt. 30 South Poultney VT 05764	(802) 287-9030

### Television Stations

Station	Website	Phone
Capital News (9)	<a href="http://www.capitalnews9.com">www.capitalnews9.com</a>	(518) 459-9999
WNCE-TV (8)	<a href="http://www.northnews8.com">www.northnews8.com</a>	(518) 798-8000
WNYT-NBC (13)	<a href="http://www.wnyt.com">www.wnyt.com</a>	(800) 999-WNYT
WRGB-CBS (6)	<a href="http://www.cbs6albany.com">www.cbs6albany.com</a>	(518) 346-6666
WTEN-ABC (10)	<a href="http://www.wten.com">www.wten.com</a>	(518) 436-4822
WXXA-FOX (23)	<a href="http://www.fox23news.com">www.fox23news.com</a>	(518) 862-0995

### Newspapers

Paper	Website	Phone
Bennington Banner	<a href="http://www.benningtonbanner.com">www.benningtonbanner.com</a>	(802) 447-2025
The Post Star	<a href="http://www.poststar.com">www.poststar.com</a>	(518) 792-3131
The Rutland Herald	<a href="http://www.rutlandherald.com">www.rutlandherald.com</a>	(802) 775-5511
The Chronicle	<a href="http://www.readthechronicle.com">www.readthechronicle.com</a>	(518) 792-1126
The Eagle	<a href="http://www.theeaglenewspaper.com">www.theeaglenewspaper.com</a>	(518) 677-5158
Glens Falls Business Journal	--	(518) 798-5045
Greenwich Journal and Salem Press	--	(518) 692-2266
Hill Country Observer	<a href="http://www.hillcountryobserver.com">www.hillcountryobserver.com</a>	(518) 677-8508
Main Street News	--	(518) 677-5950

Manchester Newspapers*	<a href="http://www.manchesternewspapers.com">www.manchesternewspapers.com</a>	(518) 642-1234
Saratogian	<a href="http://www.saratogian.com">www.saratogian.com</a>	(518) 584-4242
The Times of Ti	<a href="http://www.denpubs.com">www.denpubs.com</a>	(800) 277-6567

\*Manchester Newspapers publishes: The Whitehall Times, The Granville Sentinel, Northshire Free Press, North Country Free Press, and Lakes Region Free Press.

## **Business and Industry:**

We take great pride, in our heritage, recreational opportunities, scenic countryside and small-town charm, and also in our industrial and agricultural bases, transportation facilities and business assistance programs. Most of all, we are proud of our people. They are hard workers who comprise a stable, productive, reasonably-priced labor force and have a strong sense of community.

In a 2003 survey ranking the best and worst rates of business growth among New York State’s Capital Region counties, Washington County ranked second with 8.7 % growth of private sector. The cover story of the December 2000 issue of *Inc. Magazine*, named the Glens Falls Metro Area among the 100 “Best Cities to Start and Grow a Company.”

Washington County is strategically located within one of the four most important trade corridors and one of the largest and wealthiest market areas in North America. The **Champlain–Hudson Trade Corridor** extends at its core from Montreal to Albany, with connections north to Quebec City and south to New York City. The transportation links between Canada and the United States has helped to make this corridor into an international economic region.

Manufacturing maintains a predominant role in the county’s economy. The “Hudson Bend” towns of Kingsbury (including the Village of Hudson Falls) and Fort Edward (including the Village of Fort Edward) have the greatest concentration of industrial and commercial businesses in the county and are part of a greater regional industrial hub. These communities are situated along the heavily traveled “Route 4 Corridor”, and are located within the urbanized area of the Glens Falls MSA.

The Granville and Greenwich areas of Washington County serve as smaller industrial centers. Commercial and retail areas

in Washington County are located in and around the villages, especially in the village centers and along the other major corridors: NYS Route 32 and County Routes 29, 22 and 40.

Washington County has a wide variety of business locations including two industrial parks; one privately owned and operated and one publicly owned. Both parks are located in NYS Empire Zone Development Areas, making them eligible for added state and local tax benefits. These parks can accommodate manufacturing, light industry and warehousing activities.

Industry Overview (2006)	Value
Total Employment	15,603
Average wage per job	\$34,104
Manufacturing: (% of all jobs in County)	17.7%
Average wage per job	\$44,390
Transportation & Warehousing: (% of all jobs in County)	1.17%
Average wage per job	\$27,949
Health Care, Social Assistance: (% of all jobs in County)	8.4%
Average wage per job	\$26,877
Finance and Insurance: (% of all jobs in County)	1.3%
Average wage per job	\$33,018

The 300-acre **Fort Edward Industrial Park**, formally know as the “Energy Park”, has direct access to the Champlain Canal and the **Canadian Pacific Railroad**. The Park is approximately 6 miles from Interstate I87 (Exit 17)and is adjacent to public water and sewer.

The Fort Edward Industrial Park is also the site of GE’s dewatering facility for the dredging of PCBs from the Hudson River. This dredging project is the largest environmental dredging project ever undertaken in the United States. The site

contains over five miles of rail spurs connected to the Canadian Pacific Rail system. In addition, high voltage power, a waterfront wharf on the Champlain Canal, and an access road have been constructed. At the completion of the dredging operation, the rail, power, wharf and access road will remain as permanent infrastructure within the industrial park.

The 120-acre **Airport Industrial Park** is being developed by the Counties of Warren and Washington Industrial Development Agency (IDA). The park is approximately 3 miles from New York State Route 4 and a little over 5 miles from Interstate I87 (Exit 19). The park is adjacent to the Floyd Bennett Memorial Airport (see transportation section for additional airport information) and is fully serviced with municipal water and sewer, natural gas, 3-phase power and internet access.



Airport Industrial Park

In 2006, manufacturing was Washington County's leading private industry in both the number of jobs provided and total payroll. 2,763 people were employed in manufacturing in Washington County during 2006 with an average salary of \$44,390. Paper manufacturing was the largest subset of this industrial sector with 27% of the manufacturing jobs.

Business Facts	Washington County	New York
Manufacturers shipments, 2002 (\$1000)	769,454	147,317,463
Retail sales, 2002 (\$1000)	404,190	178,067,530
Retail sales per capita, 2002	\$6,570	\$9,298
Minority-owned firms, percent of total, 2002	< 100 firms	26.6%
Women-owned firms, percent of total, 2002	36.5%	29.6%
Federal funds and grants, 2002 (\$1000)	270,370	128,994,460

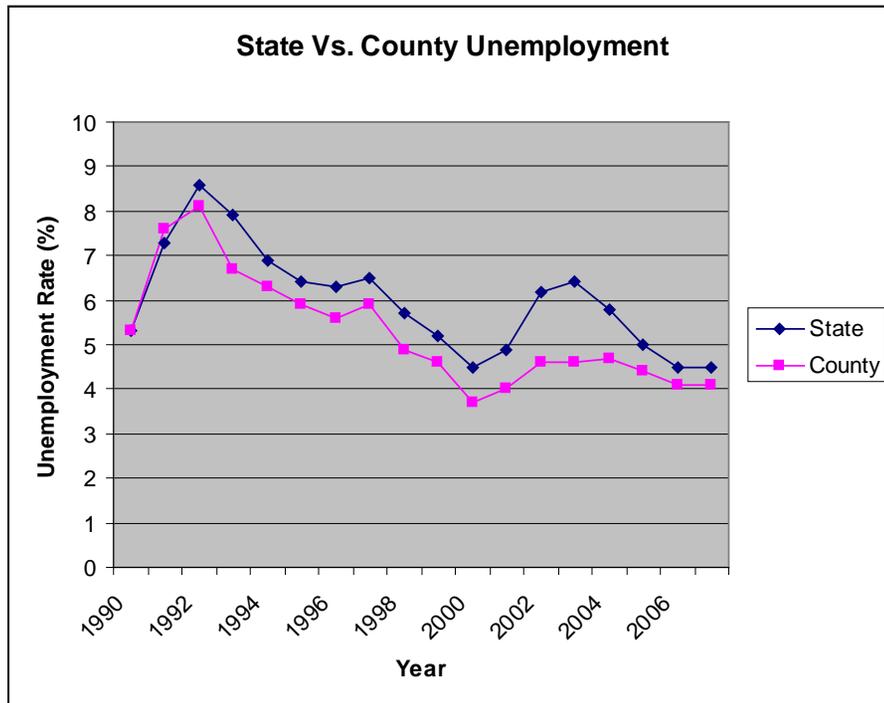
Data compiled from US Census Bureau Statistics

Business Facts	Washington County	New York
Private non-farm establishments with paid employees, 2006	1,090	514,265
Private non-farm employment, 2006	10,141	7,417,463
Private non-farm employment, %Δ 2000-2006	-2.8%	0.9%

Data compiled from New York Department of Labor Statistics

## County Labor Force

The labor force in Washington County experienced an increase of 11.8% between 2000 and 2007, and a 13% increase between 1990 and 2007. Over the last 18 years, this increase in labor force has been accompanied by a falling unemployment rate. During this same time period, the unemployment rate of Washington County has consistently been below that of New York State.



Data compiled from New York State Department of Labor Statistics

## Leading Area Employers

The area is especially known for medical device manufacturing, with an estimated **30%** of catheter products used worldwide manufactured regionally. Medical device and sterilization companies located in Washington County include Sterile Technologies, Inc., Kendall/Tyco, and Sterigenics.

Forest-based manufacturing, such as furniture and plywood, and the pulp and paper industry, as well as forest related tourism and recreation, also make significant contributions to the local economy. According to the most recent data, Washington County has 304,300 acres of forest land making it 57 percent forested. This provides a significant source of income for forest landowners. Washington County's forest land consists of three hardwood communities: Alleghenian, Adirondack and Hudson Lowlands, which contain various hardwood species including beech, basswood, sugar maple, oak and chestnut.

The concentration of employment at forest products companies in the area is more than 2.7 times the national average. Papermaking industries, which includes pulp, paper, paperboard mills and converted paper product manufacturing, are among the largest companies in the region. Collectively they employ over 3,000 residents. With 56% of total employment, paper manufacturing is the largest component of the forest products cluster in New York State. Hollingsworth & Vose, Irving Tissue, Morcon and SCA Tissue are just some of the paper manufacturing and related companies operating in Washington County. Support and related companies and other wood products manufacturers that operate in the County include GL&V, Commonwealth Plywood, Royal Wood Shavings and Manchester Wood.

## Major Washington County Employers:

New York State Correction Facilities: Comstock/Fort Ann  
Washington County Government: Fort Edward  
Irving Tissue: Fort Edward, paper products  
General Electric: Fort Edward, capacitors  
Telescope: Granville, furniture  
Fort Hudson: Fort Edward, health care  
Kendall/Tyco: Argyle, medical products  
Fort Miller Company: Greenwich/Easton, concrete and metal products  
Hollingsworth & Vose: Greenwich/Easton, specialty paper  
SCA: Greenwich, paper products  
G L & V: Hudson Falls, paper making equipment  
Saint-Gobain: Granville, industrial sealants and foams  
Manchester Wood: Granville, furniture  
Commonwealth Plywood: Whitehall, plywood  
Rozell Mechanical: Kingsbury, industrial millwrights  
Hannaford: Kingsbury, grocery

## ***Economic Development Resources***

The county's commitment to economic development and its business-friendly environment allows for a pro-active response to your development needs. The **Washington County Local Development Corporation (LDC)**, acting as a single point of contact, can assist in meeting all types of business development goals. In cooperation with the real estate professionals, public and private sector agencies, as well as local communities, the LDC maintains an up-to-date inventory of industrial and commercial buildings and land suitable for development.

In addition, the **Washington County Local Development Corporation** can provide information on the Empire Zone Program, financing, small business start-ups, site selection, permits, tax and utility incentives, workforce development and labor force training, as well as the Foreign Trade Zone Program.

## Washington County Local Development Corporation

Washington County Municipal Center  
383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-746-2292  
Fax: 518-746-2293  
[www.wcldc.org](http://www.wcldc.org)

In order to streamline the entire business permitting process, the **Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform** allows for online permitting by consolidating permit applications from multiple agencies into one easy-to-file, non-duplicative online permit application. For further information contact:

## **New York State Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform Online Permit Assistance and Licensing - OPAL**

Empire State Plaza  
Agency Building 1, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 2107  
Albany, NY 12220-0107  
Toll free: 800-342-3464  
(518) 486-3292  
(518) 474-8275 Business Permit Assistance  
[permits@gorr.state.ny.us](mailto:permits@gorr.state.ny.us)  
[www.gorr.state.ny.us/Main\\_GORR\\_Pages/Permits/opal.html](http://www.gorr.state.ny.us/Main_GORR_Pages/Permits/opal.html)

## ***Financing***

There are numerous possibilities for financing a new business or business expansion in Washington County. Generally, the quickest and most convenient method of financing a commercial or industrial project is through conventional bank financing. This offers an eligible firm rapid access to funds at a negotiated interest rate.

A number of banks have a presence in the region, among them **Adirondack Trust, Citizens Bank, Legacy, First Pioneer Farm Credit, Glens Falls National Bank, Key Bank, TD Commerce, Bank of America** and **Trustco**.

## ***Loan Programs***

There are numerous programs at the local, county, regional and state levels that assist the private sector for the purpose of expanding the local economy while creating employment opportunities in the county. These alternative financing programs are available to firms unable to meet the financial requirements necessary to obtain an appropriate bank loan.

**Washington County Local Development Corporation (LDC)** administers three different **Revolving Loan Funds**. The LDC's objective is to create new job opportunities by providing advantageous financing to new and existing firms in the County. Loans are negotiated on an individual basis, with an emphasis on new jobs and an expanded tax base. Loans can be used for land acquisition, machinery and equipment, or working capital.

**Warren-Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency (IDA):** The IDA's objective is to finance commercial and industrial projects through the proceeds of revenue bonds. Private-sector projects are financed by the sale of negotiable,

tax-exempt revenue bonds issued by the IDA. A facility is then leased to the firm, with an option of purchase at the bond's maturity date. Program uses are facility construction, land acquisition, and machinery/equipment purchase.

Warren-Washington IDA  
5 Warren St.  
Glens Falls, NY 12801  
Tel: 518-792-1312  
Fax: 518-792-4147

For detailed information on many other programs, contact the Washington County LDC at: 518-746-2292.

## ***Land Use Planning***

The **Washington County Department of Planning & Community Development** will provide information on land use regulations, county planning board referrals, census data, flood hazard maps, in-service training for local officials, purchase of development rights, agricultural districts, tourism & recreation, and socio-economic statistics.

**Washington County Department of Planning & Community Development**  
Washington County Municipal Center  
383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-746-2290  
Fax: 518-746-2293

## ***Code Enforcement***

The **Washington County Department of Code Enforcement** provides enforcement and inspection services to many towns and villages in the county. Some larger towns and villages may have a local Code Enforcement Officer or Zoning Administrator.

### **Washington County Department of Code Enforcement**

Washington County Municipal Center  
383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-746-2150

## **References and Additional Information:**

Information on many of the programs and resources provided by the County is available on the Washington County website at:

[www.co.washington.ny.us](http://www.co.washington.ny.us)

References for any information provided in this Data Book, as well as more detailed information, is available upon request from the:

### **Washington County Department of Planning & Community Development**

Washington County Municipal Center  
383 Broadway, Fort Edward NY 12828  
Tel: 518-746-2290  
Fax: 518-746-2293

<http://www.co.washington.ny.us/Departments/planning/pln1.htm>

<http://www.wcldc.org>